THE ATHENÆUM

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KING'S COLLEGE SCHOOL.—On and after the 15th instant, NEW PUPILS will be ADMITTED for HALF TERM.

R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

King's College, London, June, 1847.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT of SCIENCE.—The next Meeting will be held at OXFORD, and will commence on *WEDNESDAY*, the 23rd of JUNE, 1847.

JOHN TAYLOR, F.R.S., General Treasurer, 2, Duke-street, Adelphi, London.

NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, 41, Tavistock-street, Covent-garden.—June 9, 1847.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society will take place at the Society's Rooms on THURSDAY EVENING, June 24, at 7 o'clock.

J. E. JONES, H. CHRISTMAS, } Hon. Secs.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY of LONDON.—EXHIBITIONS AT THE GARDEN.—NOTICE is hereby given, that the SECOND MEETING will take place on SATURDAY next, the 19th of June.

The gates will be open to Visitors at 1 p.m. Tickets are issued to Fellows' orders at this Office, price 5s. each; or at the Garden, on the afternoon of the day of Exhibition, 7s. 6d. each; but then only to orders from Fellows of the Society.

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EDINBURGH REVIEW, No. CLXXIII.—ADVERTISEMENTS for insertion in No. 173 of The Edinburgh Review, are requested to be sent to the Publishers' by Thursday, the 1st of July; and BILLS on or before Friday, July the 2nd.

39, Paternoster-row,
June 12, 1847.

THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. 161.—ADVERTISEMENTS for the forthcoming Number must be forwarded to the Publisher by the 22nd, and BILLS for insertion by the 24th instant.

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BIBLICAL REVIEW.—The Editors of the 'Biblical Review' beg to call attention to the Notice which appeared in their last number, to the effect, that in consequence of the encouragement they have received, and in order to raise the literary character of their Journal, they intend henceforth to publish it in QUARTERLY NUMBERS, price THREE SHILLINGS. The next Number, commencing a New Volume, will be published on the FIRST of JULY. The first Three Volumes may now be had, neatly bound in cloth, at Seven Shillings each.

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FRASER'S MAGAZINE.—Subscribers and the Public are respectfully informed, that the next and succeeding Numbers of FRASER'S MAGAZINE will be Published by Mr. PARKER, West Strand; to whom Communications for the Editor, Books for Review, and Advertisements, are requested to be sent.

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ONE THOUSAND POUND PRIZE PICTURE. Subject: BAPTISM OF OUR SAVIOUR BY IMMERSION. Mr. EDWARD ROBERTSON (Son of the late Andrew Robertson, Esq., the eminent Miniature Painter, of Aberdeen and London), having been deprived of his successful election *by his votes being left open—laid open—or held up to view, and becoming known, while two-thirds of the other Artists had still to give in their votes!*—also, *by other unfair proceedings, inducing about one-third of the Artists to withdraw from the election altogether, who all intended to vote for Mr. E. R.'s Picture*—he therefore HEREBY DECLARES the Adjudication of the Prize, according to the old circular, to have now become impracticable, incompetent, and *null* and *void*. And reserving to himself all his rights, should the matter now be settled by ballot, he in the meantime is prepared to receive Proposals for said Picture. It is adapted for a Nobleman's Gallery, or for Speculators in Exhibitions at home or in America. The picture measures 10 feet by 14, and may be seen daily at the Chinese Room, Hyde Park Corner, London. N.B. It can only be properly seen from the wall of the recess opposite. This picture occupied the Artist many months of study, and among the unsolicited eulogiums that have appeared in the Periodicals are—"The freedom of handling"—"The variety of character in the figures"—"The richness of colouring," &c.

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The whole will be open to public inspection on Tuesday, the 15th, and further particulars may be had of Mr. BENT, Solicitor, Brownstreet; and Catalogues will be ready for delivery on Saturday, the 19th instant, at Messrs. Winstanley's, Paternoster-row, London; of Messrs. T. Winstanley & Sons, Liverpool; and of the Auctioneers, No. 9, York Hotel-buildings, Manchester.

Mr. L. A. LEWIS will SELL, at his House, 125, Fleet-street, on WEDNESDAY, 16th,

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N. Poussin	Palamedes	De Heem	Wilkie
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Calendar, agricultural
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Death of Manchester, death of
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Pit for forcing
Polmaise heating, by Mr. J. Deans, gardener, Felling, Newcastle
Potato disease
Potato disease, Townley on: remarks by Mr. F. J. Graham
Potato crop, the future, by Mr. J. Wilson
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Tanks, sizes of
Townley on the Potato disease
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OFFICIAL PAPERS.—Reports of Commissioners of Railways—London and North-Western—Belfast and Ballymena: Engineers' Report.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.—Gravesend and Rochester—Dublin and Belfast Junction—Belfast and Ballymena—Dundalk and Enniskillen—Limerick, Ennis and Killaloe—Projected Lines.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.—Committees on Opposed Bills—ditto on Unopposed Bills—Passed Standing Orders.

Cork, Blackrock and Passage; Meeting of Directors—Plymouth and Dartmoor: Meeting of Shareholders.

The Bridge Accident at Chester, and the Inquest.

Progress of Works—Accidents—Law Intelligence—Iron Trade—Patents—Meetings—Tenders for Loans—Contracts—Dividends—Calls—Deposits returned—Correspondents—Traffic Table—Share Lists—Foreign ditto—Money Market—Paris Letter—Gossip of the Week.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1847.

REVIEWS

Memoir of the Life of Elizabeth Fry, with Extracts from her Journal and Letters. Edited by two of her Daughters. Vol. I. Gilpin.

We have rarely seen a biography executed in better taste as regards some essential particulars than this Memoir of one of the most distinguished women whom England has produced. It is not, however, clear of heaviness and monotony; nor have the Editors wholly escaped the besetting tendency of those writing the lives of pious persons—which is, to keep in the shade individual traits of character and all adventures not bearing on the main purpose or subject. Elizabeth Fry was not merely a woman of enthusiastic benevolence, gifted with such powers of enterprise and persuasive reason as might have fitted her had she been born a man to have founded colonies and framed constitutions—she was also a woman of refinement and genius. By disposition no less than by position she was qualified gracefully to fill the place among august and intellectual personages to which her singular efforts introduced her. She could hardly have exercised such sudden and extensive power as she did without possessing an acute discrimination of character as well as a singular geniality of sympathy,—and this, we think, might have been more brightly illustrated without harm done to her memory as a Missionary.—It is fair, however, to observe that the deficiency of contemporary anecdote, &c. is largely ascribable to the nature of the materials whereof the work is mainly composed—a journal kept by Elizabeth Fry herself; kept, too, with the prospect of its being one day given to the world. In such a register, it was more natural that shades of temper, discouragements of mind, and other spiritual despondencies and aspirations should be recorded, than those facts and features which afford so much matter of analysis to the student and deep instruction to the thinker. We cannot expect such a woman to have Boswellized Newgate—the Yearly Meeting—or the Mansion House;—while we feel that her life, times, exertions and associations offered so wide a canvas as to make us regret that the same has not been less partially employed and less meagrely filled.

Elizabeth Gurney was the third daughter of an opulent Norwich merchant and banker, of old family, and whose ancestors had for some generations belonged to the Society of Friends. Among the worthy persons of this persuasion, however, there have been always fine lines of demarcation and shades of difference. This, in a religious body where Scruple takes the form of outward symbol, and Orthodoxy is asserted not merely by tacit renunciation of the world's pleasures but by an open wearing of an unworldly uniform, leads to discrepancies hard to reconcile and confusions which there is no clearing up. For Scruple, in its manifestations, may be a thing of times and epochs as essentially as the cut of a garment. A protest against Papistry, for instance, was a different thing in the days of Mary Tudor from that which it is now when Pius the Ninth holds St. Peter's keys. Our very Friends have changed the fashion of their apparel; and—while a few zealous and conscientious persons in their society have, from its first establishment, stickled for the preservation of the bald, hard, ungraceful usages of Puritanism in their unmitigated rigour—the rich, the imaginative, the cultivated and the liberal have declined or evaded such a strictness of discipline as impossible, unnecessary, tending to hypocritical concealment, spiritual pride, intellectual impoverishment, and other ill consequences. Hence may be seen the somewhat anomalous spectacle of a section of persons, in a sect whose badge is outward testimony, rejecting the same as unnecessary,—though neither sufficiently earnest in dissent nor sufficiently at variance in deeper principles to take the overt step of joining some more really united and less externally-precise body of worshippers.

To this party of what the world has agreed laconically to style "Wet Quakers" the Gurneys belonged. The mother of the household not only admitted but encouraged in her daughters the cultivation of taste and accomplishments held by the stricter members of her sect to be fatally ensnaring. They sketched, they sang, they danced, they wore lace streamers—and Elizabeth a scarlet riding habit! A journal of her younger years reveals with unusual artlessness many of her tastes and coquetries. She had a passion for great people—admiring most especially the Duke of Gloucester, who was then quartered at Norwich. She had lively spirits; loved to be admired,—and owned as much to her diary; gave early manifestations of the Enthusiast's necessity for self-imposed mortification, though she entertained an honest desire for self-improvement.—

"I have known my faults and not corrected them, and now I am determined I will once more try, with redoubled ardour, to overcome my wicked inclinations. I must not flirt; I must not ever be out of temper with the children; I must not contradict without a cause; I must not mump when my sisters are liked and I am not; I must not allow myself to be angry; I must not exaggerate, which I am inclined to do. I must not give way to luxury; I must not be idle in mind, I must try to give way to every good feeling, and overcome every bad; I will see what I can do. If I had but perseverance, I could do all that I wish; I will try. I have lately been too satirical, so as to hurt sometimes; remember, it is always a fault to hurt others."

Further, we find the diarist accusing herself of being "a contemptible fine lady;"—shortly afterwards chronicling a sight of London, with its play-going and its hair-dressing and its face-painting; its visits to Mrs. Opie and Mrs. Siddons and Mrs. Inchbald and Dr. Wolcot; and its near view of the Prince of Wales—to admire whom she found more delicious than "seeing the rest of the company or hearing the music." We find, also, in other notes and confessions belonging to this period, traces of a sensitive organization—an exquisite love of the beauties of Nature—a nervous timidity which shrank alike from giving or feeling pain or shock or disturbance—in short, precisely those qualities which must have made her after career difficult, yet endowed her with success in it when the boundary was once passed and the struggle over. Here follows another entry characteristic and attractive in the sincerity of its revelations.—

Weymouth, June 29th.—We dined here, and after dinner went on the sea. I always feel rather afraid when there, for I consider that if the least accident were to happen, I should be drowned; and I do not know if it be right for pleasure to run the risk of one's life. I always feel doubtful of ever seeing land again; but I believe it to be partly unwise cowardice: if duty led me to it, I do not think I should fear. Some minds, by nature, are more cowards than others, and require more faith to overcome it. This evening, I am sorry to say, I feel a hankering after this world and its gaieties: but what real satisfaction is there in being admired? I am uncertain about my going to the Rooms to-morrow. I should not object, I think, if no expense follow it; but if I can keep away I will do so; I have been considering, and believe this subject requires real thought. I hear there is to be a ball, and I don't doubt we may go: if I go I shall enter the world, and fall very likely into some of its snares. Shall I feel satisfied in going, or most satisfied in staying at home? I believe in staying at home. The worst of all will be, I shall have to contradict the will of all the others, and most likely to disappoint my father by not going: there is the rub; if I don't go, perhaps he will not let the others go. I think I shall leave it on these grounds: if I can stay at home in any way, do; but if I cannot without vexing my father, I must go, and try not to be hurt by it."

Dancing seems to have been found particularly seducing by Elizabeth Gurney; and as the young lady's tenderness of conscience increased, it is interesting to see how her reasons for yielding to it became weaker and weaker. The same thing happened with regard to Music. Yet even after Mrs. Fry had taken the step of outward conformity with those who profess to see evil in the graceful arts, she could never narrow her mind to make common cause with the anathematizers. Few can have become better versed than herself in the anatomy of temptation during the progress of her prison ministrations; few can have more closely studied those coarsest forms of sensualism on the appearance of which many worthy persons—confounding accident with essential—base their condemnations of all pleasures addressing themselves conjointly to the mind and to the senses. Yet the following is an entry from her Journal of 1825—which she believed and intended that the eyes of her successors should see; and the opinion registered in it, it is needless to add, in spirit recognizes and defends every imaginative pastime and pursuit denounced by the ordinances of Quakerism.—

"Perhaps I said too much about some pictures and various ornaments that have been brought from France for us; much as I love true Christian simplicity, yet if I show a wrong spirit in my desire to maintain it in our house and furniture, I do wrong, and harm the best of causes. I far prefer moderation, both from principle and taste; although my experience in life proves two things: first, that it is greatly for the good of the community to live according to the situation in which we have been placed by a kind Providence; if it be done unto the Lord, and therefore done properly; then I believe that by so doing we should help others and not injure ourselves. Second, I have so much seen the extreme importance of occupation in the well-being of mankind, that many works of art that tend to our accommodation, and, even the gratification of our taste, may be innocently partaken of, may be used and not abused, and kept in their proper places: as by so doing, we encourage that sort of employment which prevents the active powers of man being spent in things that are evil."

The observer will hardly fail to remark how the experience of the mature woman—a wife and a mother—modifies the doubts of the enthusiastic girl: and drawing thence his inference, he will ask, not unfairly, "Why make laws for the young and ardent impossible for them to abide by or for the mature to enforce? Wherefore propose tests which each one evades according to the strength of his desires or the measure of his natural propensities?" The question of the lawfulness of art, ornament, and amusement—of Drama, Painting, Music, has been too unfairly canvassed and too partially glanced at in what is called the religious world, for us to forbear citing such authority as a passage like the above taken in context with the speaker's life furnishes.

We shall not be thanked for having thus opened the matter: but it is one which claims to be seriously argued, not superstitiously avoided, in the present state of morals and opinion. It comes, moreover, naturally within the scope of our record; since we shall further remark that the Memoir clearly shows that throughout her

whole life Mrs. Fry suffered from secret discrepancies betwixt herself and the very estimable sect to which she belonged. Her willing intercourse with persons of other religious professions led to a marriage beyond the pale of Quakerism in her own family; and her assent to this naturally suggested within herself fears lest she should be considered by her sect as lukewarm, insincere, and careless of her own offspring. Thus, also, the part which she was called upon to play by her exertions in the cause of prison discipline, among Kings, Queens, Bishops, Ministers, legal functionaries, and others, was felt as in some degree chargeable with inconsistency by one who had deliberately assumed the badges of separation from the World and the World's people. To the Anatomy of Scruple—a work wanted, and therefore sure to be one day written—these memoirs and journals would furnish some valuable illustrations.

From the emphasis with which we have dwelt upon this point it may be implied that the Memoir of Elizabeth Fry does not furnish very ample material for extract. When she was twenty, she married, removed to London, and became the mother of a large family. Nine years later, it appears that she commenced those ministerial services which are so peculiar in form and ordination to the Society of Friends — and for which she was so eminent. As an extempore speaker she was remarkable alike for flow of language, absence of repetition, avoidance of triviality or familiarity, and a musical and impressive utterance; qualifications bringing a powerful aid to her benevolent intentions and purposes. These seem always to have been uppermost in her mind before they finally fixed themselves upon the wretched female inmates of Newgate,—as a pleasantly written page or two of this narrative will suffice to prove:—

"In establishing herself at Plashet, Mrs. Fry had formed various plans for the relief of her poorer neighbours, which she gradually brought into action. One of her early endeavours was to establish a girls' school for the Parish of East Ham; of which Plashet is a hamlet. Immediately opposite the gate of Plashet House there stood a dilapidated dwelling, picturesque from its gable end and large projecting porch; it was inhabited by an aged man and his still more aged sister; they had seen better days, and eked out a narrow income with the help of the brother's labours in a small garden, and the sale of rabbits, of which they kept a vast quantity. Like persons fallen in life, they were reserved; the sister almost inaccessible: but by degrees Mrs. Fry won her way to the old lady's heart; she might be seen seated in an upper chamber, on one side of a fire-place lined with blue Dutch tiles, opposite the invalid, who, propped by cushions, leaned back in an easy chair, in a short white dressing-gown over a quilted petticoat, her thin wrinkled hands resting on her knees; and her emaciated refined countenance brightening under the cheering influence of her guest. * * About half a mile from Plashet, on the high road between Stratford and Ilford, the passer-by will find two long rows of houses, with one larger one in the centre, if possible more dingy than the rest. At that time they were squalid and dirty. The windows generally stuffed with old rags, or pasted over with brown paper, and the few remaining panes of glass refusing to perform their intended office from the accumulated dust of years; puddles of thick black water before the doors; children without shoe or stocking; mothers, whose matted locks escaped from the remnants of caps, which looked as though they never could have been white; pigs, on terms of evident familiarity with the family; poultry, sharing the children's potatoes—all bespoke an Irish colony. It was a pleasant thing to observe the influence obtained by Mrs. Fry over these wild but warm-hearted people. She had in her nature a touch of poetry and a quick sense of the droll; the Irish character furnished matter for both. Their powers of deep love and bitter grief excited her sympathy; almost against her judgment, she would grant the linen shirt and the boughs of evergreen to array the departed and ornament the bed of death. One clear frosty morning, Mrs. Fry called her elder children to accompany her on a visit to one of these cottages. A poor woman, the mother of a young family, had died there; she had been well conducted as a wife and mother, and had long shown a desire for religious instruction; the priest, a kind-hearted, painstaking man, liberal in his views and anxious for the good of his flock, thought well of the poor woman, had frequently visited her in her illness, and was in that, as in many other cases, very grateful to Mrs. Fry for the relief and nourishment she had bestowed; which it was not in his power to give. On the bed of death lay extended the young mother, her features which were almost beautiful, stiffened into the semblance of marble. Her little children were on the floor, the husband, in a corner, leaning on a round table, with his face buried in his hands. A paper cross laid on the breast of the corpse; the sun shone into the room, and mocked the dreary scene. The apartment was close, from the fumes of tobacco and the many guests of the wake, which had been held during the night; contrasting strangely with the fresh air that blew in through the half-opened door-way. Mrs. Fry spoke soothingly to the husband, she reminded him of his wife's desires for his good, and for that of his children. * * Again, she offered solace to the mourner, promised assistance for his little ones, and left the room. Some of the scenes in Irish Row were very different, 'Madam Fry,' as she was called by them, being so popular as to produce some inconveniences and many absurdities. She enjoyed giving pleasure; it was an impulse as well as a duty with her to do good; gathering her garments round her, she would thread her way through children and pigs, up broken staircases, and by narrow passages to the apartments she sought; there she would listen to their tales of want or woe, or of their difficulties with their children, or of the evil conduct of their husbands. She persuaded many of them to adopt more orderly habits, giving little presents of clothing as encouragements; she induced some to send their children to school; and with the consent of the priest, circulated the Bible amongst them. On one occasion, when the weather was extremely cold, and great distress prevailed, being at the time too delicate herself to walk, she went alone in the carriage, literally piled with flannel petticoats for Irish Row; the rest of the party walking to meet her, to assist in the delightful task of distribution. She made relieving the poor a pleasure to her children, by the cheerful spirit in which she did it; she employed them as almoners when very young, but expected a minute account of their giving, and their reasons for it. * * She was a warm advocate for vaccination, and very successful in performing the operation; she had acquired this art from Doctor Willan, one of its earliest advocates and most skilful practitioners. At intervals, she made a sort of investigation of the state of the parish, with a view to vaccinating the children. The result was that small-pox was scarcely known in the villages over which her influence extended."

It was in the year 1813 that Mrs. Fry paid her first visit to Newgate:—though four years elapsed ere she commenced that course of active exertion which led to such remarkable results, and drew upon her so large a share of the attention of all who were worthiest and most enlightened in Europe. It is not needful to follow her step by step,—even if these Memoirs enabled us to do so. But they confine themselves too strictly, we think, to the journals of the missionary; and in these, with a solicitous record of every shade of feeling — of every nervous excitement or depression—we find, as has been said, a singularly small amount of notice of facts or individuals.

We have been of late led to think much of the benevolent excitement enkindled by Mrs. Fry's exertions—little less in amount than that which attended the ministrations of Father Mathew—by the record of the less known proceedings of a woman yet more remarkable, which has recently crept forth, rather than been laid before the world. We allude to the life and deeds of Sarah Martin, of Yarmouth—dwelt on in the last number of the *Edinburgh Review*. She was a poor dressmaker—not, like her better-known prototype, endowed with wealth, powerful connexions, graceful culture, or natural means to enhance her affectionate ministrations. Yet having entered on these from a single-hearted feeling of duty, she continued them throughout life at the risk of worldly substance with such strange success, that by degrees she absolutely created the office of Chaplain and Schoolmaster in a jail—which after her decease men were appointed to fill. It would seem from both the greater and the less example (but which *was* the greater?) as if the tenderness of Woman's nature could exercise by persuasion an authority over the erring and conscience-stricken beyond the strength of the sterner sex to compass. We believe that this would be confirmed by those who have watched the proceedings of the Sisters of Charity,—from the *Mère des Soldats* down to the more orderly, less eccentric, and less intellectual females who belong to the *Béguinages* of the Belgian cities. How far such services consist with home duties—or rather fall to the lot of the solitary and unattached—is a matter too nice and complex to be here entered upon with any hope of our arriving at a regulating law. Those who are accustomed to study character "through small chinks" will, as we have noted, find in the mass of journals and letters here laid before the world allusions to conflicting duties—to disappointments, and to natural fears of the inference which bystanders might draw therefrom, such as should be especially instructive to all those whom Enthusiasm sets apart and beckons onward into extraordinary worldly prominence.—The first volume brings down the record to the close of the year 1825.

Masonic Institutes, by various Authors; with an Introductory Essay and Explanatory Notes. By the Rev. G. Oliver, D.D. Spencer.

Freemasons have frequently shown reluctance to make the history and transactions of their Order public. They long eschewed the printing press as determinedly as the most despotic governments. Some few among them, however, at length thought it for the interest of the craft to relax old prejudices in this particular. Their efforts were not at first very successful. At a grand lodge, indeed, holden in 1722, a succinct 'History of Freemasonry' by Dr. Anderson was sanctioned; but the wisdom of the measure was disputed by the majority of the brethren. The attempt was productive of mischievous alarm. Some few "fastidious brethren," hurried by prejudice, committed to the flames "several very valuable MSS. concerning the fraternity, their lodges, regulations, charges, secrets and usages—particularly one in the hand-writing of Nicholas Stone, the warden under Inigo Jones."

In the course of time, the absence of authentic writings became inconvenient. The press requiring publicity, certain charges and addresses delivered by brethren in authority were occasionally printed and soon widely circulated. When in 1738 Dr. Anderson's celebrated defence of the Order appeared, its tendency was found to be highly beneficial; and it led to the extension of the craft throughout England. But a pamphlet by an "English Mason," called 'An Apology for the Free and Accepted Masons,' published about the same period, had force enough to provoke papal censure, being prohibited and burned:—circumstances which rendered it only more popular.

Dr. Anderson throughout his elaborate history treats of the Order as an operative fraternity in relation to architecture:—others have treated it as a merely speculative institution embracing the whole system of morality. To the first interpretation an allegorical meaning is given, by

which the parts of the edifice described may be interpreted of spiritual relations and attributes: to the latter a symbolical expression is added illustrating the moral by reference to physical correspondencies. In accordance with this tendency to interchange the objects of both worlds, we are told in one of the lectures before us that "Freemasons consider geometry as a natural logic; for as Truth is ever consistent, invariable and uniform, all truths may and ought to be investigated in the same manner. Moral and religious definitions, axioms and propositions have as regular and certain a dependence upon each other as any in physics or the mathematics." This point being well understood, the question whether the fraternity be primarily operative or speculative becomes of little import. Whichever theory be adopted, the conclusion is the same—*i. e.* "Freemasonry depends on the unanimity and integrity of its members, the inflexibility of their charitable pursuits, and the immutability of the principles upon which the society is established." Its favourite symbol for expressing this social condition has always been and still remains "the forty-seventh proposition of the first book of Euclid, which proves that the square subtending a right angle is equal to the squares on the sides that form the right angle." It was always used as a Mason's signature or mark:—since "the union in 1813" it has been also "adopted as the cognizance of a Past Master."

We need nothing more to demonstrate how closely allied is Freemasonry with Mysticism. The mystery consequent on this alliance gave occasion to the suspicion of a secret of so equivocal a character that the members were politically bound to each other by oath not to reveal it. That there is an oath is not disputed; but Dr. Anderson demands "where is the impiety—where the immorality, or folly, for a number of men to form themselves into a society, whose main end is to improve in commendable skill and knowledge; and to promote universal beneficence and the social virtues of human life, under the solemn obligation of an oath? And this, in what form, under what secret restrictions, and with what innocent ceremonies they think proper?" The possession of a secret is likewise justified by the example of the Pythagoreans, the Essenes, the Cabalists, and the Druids. A similar defence is made for the joining of the right hand, as a masonic sign of friendship: as also for the use of mystical numbers, implements, customs and other peculiarities.

The present volume presents us with thirteen lectures, delivered at different periods and lodges, in illustration of the above remarks; but they contain no revelations for the satisfaction of vulgar curiosity. They are all, more or less, eloquent,—and contain evidence of sufficient ethical talent in their authors. An anonymous lecture on moral geometry is singularly ingenious; and all, in their several degrees, vouch for the intellectual respectability of the Order and of its leading members.

Byways of History, from the Twelfth to the Sixteenth Century. By Mrs. Percy Sinnett. 2 vols. Longman & Co.

Two interesting volumes under a felicitous title. History has its episodes, some of which are not only instructive but deeply impressive. Besides, there are many subjects important to be understood which historians have either passed by with very slight notice or of which they have given imperfect, if not mistaken, views. On these accounts a work such as we have now before us was a happy conception; and Mrs. Sinnett has executed her task with ability and faithfulness.

The age to which the book refers was the age of romance and chivalry. Society was then made up of very simple elements. The middle class was unknown except in the towns. Barons, knights and monks occupy nearly the whole sphere of observation. An indiscriminate and confused multitude, sunk in vassalage and ignorance, fill up the outline. The gorgeous ceremonies of the church and the pompous shows and retinues of the nobles dazzle the eye and prevent us from fully appreciating the condition of the common people. Distance of time leaves only the prominent objects in sight, and softens down all that is repulsive; just as the roughnesses which have annoyed the traveller disappear when he looks back from an eminence upon the landscape through which he has passed. A good service is rendered when we are enabled to analyze the real state of the people at large, and thus to attain just conceptions of society as it was then constituted. Therefore, we welcome these glimpses of Germany in the sixteenth century as a pleasant contribution to our literature.

The miserable picture of feudal dependency which forms a leading feature of those times is, however, relieved by the freedom enjoyed in the towns, which was the result of their commercial importance. Trade has unquestionably been, in every country, the grand means of civilization. The free towns of Germany very early threw off the yoke and won for themselves exclusive privileges. Their rise may be regarded as a new epoch in the history of the people. From that moment a spirit of knowledge and independence was engendered that extended its benefits even through the more exclusive orders of the community. The light kindled and diffused by commerce speedily penetrated into the inmost sanctuaries of superstition; and the feudal castle, which had been little more than an enormous dungeon built for the reception and security of spoil, by degrees assumed a more cheerful and habitable aspect. Citizens first taught the rude nobles the refinements of social life, and filled their abodes with those comforts and splendours by which the aristocracy of later ages were distinguished. Still, for a long time the spirit of feudal tyranny would not relinquish its supposed right of absolute sovereignty; and the cities were driven to methods of defence as violent as those by which they were assailed. Thus, these abodes of dawning freedom became the theatres of many severe and protracted struggles—which resulted in their complete emancipation.

For a long time, however, the benefit did not extend beyond the towns. The peasantry had still to bear their yoke. The burden of exorbitant taxation rested heavily upon them and kept them in the very lowest state of depression. They not only had no political existence, but they had neither the disposal of their persons nor of their time. It was their hard lot to minister not merely to the necessities but to the extravagance of their lords. Every new expense was the pretext for a new impost. Hence it was not to be supposed that they could witness the growing immunities of the citizens without becoming more and more dissatisfied with their own condition. The contrast was too great and striking not to be severely felt. Amongst a people thus universally uneasy and discontented, rebellion and insurrection took their rise from the most trivial circumstances. A single spark was sufficient to kindle them into a flame. These, however, were the sure presages of a deliverance, which would have been achieved at an earlier period but for their own want of adequate organization. This rendered some of their noblest struggles feeble and spasmodic; and for a time these issued only in strengthening their bonds, and leaving them in a subjection more complete, if not more hopeless, than before.

It is in this light that the history of the Peasant War in Germany should be studied—a subject that has never yet received half the attention which it demands. It exhibits to us a people acting under one of the finest impulses of our common nature—that innate love of freedom which cannot be eradicated from the human breast. Apart from the excesses with which they were charged, the occasional barbarities which they inflicted, and the religious fanaticism by which they were too often swayed, the conduct of the peasantry during these trying struggles commands our warmest approbation. But patriotic valour must be successful in order to insure its due meed of praise:—failure stamps it with dishonour and holds it up to the execration of mankind. It is time, however, to illustrate our remarks by a few extracts from the work before us.—

"About the year 1140, a great flood had overwhelmed the whole country between the Eider and the Elbe, and this was followed by a winter so long and severe, that 'the very birds in the air were frozen and fell dead to the ground.' In the year after this provisions were so dear and scarce that men and cattle died in great misery. The people of Dittmarsh, therefore, besought the Count of Stade, who dwelt on the borders of their country, to release them from the obligation of bringing in the quantity of corn which they now paid as tribute; but instead of releasing them, the Count declared that he had this time need of more corn than he ever had before; and this was the reason why:—The Count had one day invited a great man, the lord of a neighbouring castle, to visit him, and had amused him with harping and minstrelsy. Thereupon, the great man in return invited the Count; and the entertainment he provided, albeit in form belonging to his day and not to ours, yet in spirit was much the same as most of us may have had occasion to remark even in London city in 1846. He built up in his hall mighty heaps of sacks of corn, and then he made his cows, and his calves, and his horses, and his oxen, and his sheep, and his pigs, pass in review before his guests in order to astonish and awe them by the amount of his riches. The Countess of Stade was piqued at being outdone in this manner, and being a stern woman, urged her Count to take more violent measures than ever to compel the peasants to make up the yawning deficit in the granaries and storehouses. What the Count did is not recorded; but on the appointed day the waggons laden with corn were seen slowly wending their way to the castle gate; and lo! on the top of one was seen the daughter of a boor, a fair maiden, much admired by the Count, and to whom he had paid many attentions, after the fashion in which in the twelfth century nobles were wont to compliment maids of low degree. By the side of this waggon her father trudged along, one followed closely upon another, and the castle gates were thrown wide to admit the goodly store, when suddenly a signal was given, 'Up and be doing, and open the sacks of corn;' and forth from beneath the sacks sprang up strong armed men, who rushed into the castle and bore down all before them. The Countess fled from her pursuers, and met her death, either from their weapons or in the waters of the neighbouring river. The Count took refuge in one of the inner chambers, where he might have remained concealed, but that a tame magpie with which he was accustomed to amuse himself flew after him and betrayed his hiding-place. He was dragged forth and stabbed, his castle razed to the ground, and for this time the peasants were victorious."

The story of the drummer of Niklashausen illustrates so well the general character of that series of revolts which preceded the great outbreak of 1525, that we insert it with but slight abridgment.—

"It was in the year 1476 that a shepherd lad of Wurzburg, named Hans Boheim, but commonly known as Hans the drummer, or the piper—for he

was in the habit of playing on both instruments, at weddings, church festivals, and such occasions — began to meditate on all he saw and heard, 'to see visions and to dream dreams;' and one day—it was about the time of Mid-Lent—there appeared to him no less a person than the glorious 'Queen of Heaven' herself. The life he had hitherto led now appeared profane and sinful; he burnt his drum in the presence of the people, and began to preach to them to repent of their sins, and commanded them to lay aside all costly attire, cords of silk and silver, pointed-toed shoes, and all manner of vanity. The people hearkened to the new prophet, and great numbers came every holiday flocking to Niklashausen to hear him. Soon he enlarged his theme. The Blessed Virgin, he said, had not only commanded him to preach the renunciation of all the pomps and vanities of the world, but likewise the speedy abolition of all existing authorities. There should be no lords spiritual or temporal, neither prince nor pope, neither king nor kaiser, but all should be as brothers; that all taxes and tributes, tithes and dues, should be done away with; and wood and water, spring and meadow, be free to all men. This was the dream of many weary hearts in that poor down-trodden multitude, and they could not but throb at such glad tidings. From all the neighbouring villages and hamlets on the Tauber, from the distant Odenwald, and the valleys of the Maine and Neckar, came pilgrims of both sexes and all ages. Mechanics ran from their workshops, peasant boys from the plough, maids from the reaping-field with the sickles in their hands, without leave asked, came trooping in to hear the new Evangel. For months together, on all Sundays and holidays, was heard the voice of the holy youth, 'the messenger of Our Lady,' as he was called, sounding from his pulpit—a tub turned upside down. Two nobles even are named as among his hearers. Forty thousand worshippers of the Virgin were collected around Niklashausen; booths and tents were erected to supply them with necessaries, though at night they had to lie in the gardens or in the open fields. The enthusiasm rose ever higher; but the priests now began to discover that they were playing with edged tools, and to hint that Hans Boheim dealt in the black art — that his inspiration was of the devil—and that it was he and no other who had appeared to him in the robes of the Blessed Virgin, and prompted this ungodly rebellion against temporal and ecclesiastical authority. But the hearts of men were on fire, and this feeble sprinkling only made them burn the fiercer. They flung themselves on their knees before the holy drummer, saying, 'O Man of God! messenger of Heaven! be gracious to us, and have pity on us;'—and they tore and parted among them fragments of his garments, and he esteemed himself happy who could obtain but a thread of so precious a relic. The Bishops of Mainz and Wurzburg, and the senate of Nuremburg, looked askance at these doings, and forbade their subjects, under severe penalties, to go near Niklashausen; but threats, once formidable, seemed to have lost their power. Freedom from every yoke! rest from every burden! — there was magic in those sounds that nothing could resist. Matters seemed coming to a crisis. At length—it was on St. Kilian's-day—Hans Boheim, after concluding his exhortation, invited, as was his custom, the faithful to assemble again on the following holiday, — adding, however, the somewhat ominous injunctions, to leave their children at home, to come towards evening, and to come armed. Precisely what was intended cannot be known; but rumours of what had passed reached the ears of the bishop, and he saw that no time was to be lost. The prophet—thoughtless, seemingly, of the stratagems of war—was sleeping quietly enough, when, in the middle of the night, the house where he lay was surrounded by the bishop's men-at-arms, who bound him fast, placed him on a horse, and set off at full speed with him to Wurzburg. When this news was spread among the pilgrims, sixteen thousand of them undertook to follow him to Wurzburg, and set him free; and after marching all night, they found themselves before the walls of the castle. The bishop sent down his marshal to know whence they came and what they wanted. The peasants, in reply, demanded that Hans Boheim should be given up to them;—if this were refused, they would deliver him by force. While they were speaking, some were seen to gather stones, and from the castle a few shots were fired at the peasants; but the bishop showed a wish to accommodate matters, and sent down one Conrad von Hutten to tell them that the cause of their prophet should be subjected to judicial investigation; and that if they would only go quietly home, and return to their duty, all would yet be well. These soft words, judiciously blended, when necessary, with threats, began to produce their effect. The serfs were little used to this gentle conciliatory tone, and they began to melt away before its sunshine. Group after group slowly retired, scattering in different directions; but the bishop watched his opportunity, and when they had all peaceably turned their backs, he sent out his men-at-arms, who fell upon them, and cut many down and took many prisoners. Great numbers took refuge in a church; but, threatened with fire and starvation, they at length surrendered. The prophet was burnt to death, in a field near the Castle of Wurzburg."

Partial historians have said much respecting the barbarities inflicted by the peasants. In particular, the slaughter of twenty nobles at Weinsperg has been the theme of general reprobation. But it should be remembered that this was a solitary instance; it was the act of but a few individuals, and was committed under circumstances of provocation which, though they do not excuse, ought at least to be admitted in mitigation of, the offence. On the other hand, the nobles seem to have considered themselves exempted from any exercise of moderation or humanity, and inflicted upon their miserable victims the most horrible punishments. George Truchsess, having obtained a victory which delivered into his hands one of those who were concerned in the slaughter of Weinsperg, adopted the following mode of retribution.—

"He ordered him to be fastened by an iron chain to an apple-tree, in such a manner that he could run round it to a distance of about two feet. He then commanded wood to be brought; and round the tree, about a fathom and a half from it, he had a great circular pile built up,—he himself, the noble George Truchsess von Waldburg, the Count Ulrich von Helfenstein, Count Frederick von Furstenberg, the Baron von Hutten, and other of his chivalry, working at it with their own hands. The pile was then kindled; it was night; the bright stars looked down upon the wide battle-field, strewed over with the dead—with broken waggons and tents, guns and weapons of every kind, amongst which also lay many of the peasants wounded and mangled, but still living, whose groans and convulsive sobs were heard at intervals, amidst the roar of drunken revelry from the camp of the victors, and the *shouts of laughter* from the nobles, exulting like demons over the sufferings of the victim, as he sprung shrieking from one point to another of the fiery circle within which he was slowly roasting to death (*feinlangsam gebraten*), says the narrative of one who looked on. The other prisoners stood by, images of horror, white and cold as stone."

The most lamentable part of this gloomy history is, that all this suffering and blood were expended to no purpose. The wrongs of the peasants were not even mitigated. Not one article of their calm and dignified manifesto did they obtain. Defeated in all their attempts, they sank down into a condition more helpless than ever. Even Luther and Melancthon helped to rivet their chains; and with singular inconsistency claimed evangelical freedom while they preached vehemently the doctrine of passive obedience and unconditional submission. Thus the peasants saw themselves abandoned by the very men to whom they had confidently looked for support. Taught by such examples, the world has learnt at length that it is not by brute force that social grievances are to be redressed, and that every improvement in the condition of a people must be the result of growing intelligence and advancing knowledge among themselves. Liberty *may* sometimes ride "on the whirlwind and direct the storm;" but its blessings are more pure and lasting when they come by peaceful methods and by steady degrees.

On Etherization in Surgery and Practical Medicine. By John Forbes, M.D.—*Notes on the Inhalation of Sulphuric Ether in the Practice of Midwifery.* By J. G. Simpson, M.D.—*Letter on the Injurious Effects of the Inhalation of Ether.* By James H. Pickford, M.D. (Brighton Guardian, June 2nd, 1847.)

The history of Medicine has presented no parallel to the perfect success that has attended the use of ether as a means of preventing pain, whether in surgical operations or in the treatment of disease. We have been hitherto fearful of expressing ourselves so favourably in regard to this remedy as facts seemed to warrant—lest it might turn out that its success had depended on an extraordinary run of favourable circumstances, or its reputation on a suppression of untoward cases. But its use for now nearly six months throughout every part of the civilized world, in thousands of cases, forbids the supposition that accident has anything to do with success, — whilst it has had enemies enough to bring all its misdeeds to light. From all that we can learn, both in this country and on the continent, the amount of injury that has been traced to ether is marvellously small,—so small that we would undertake to prove a larger amount of injury during the present month from the eating of gooseberry pie. The story of the dangers which have followed the employment of this agent has, in every case, turned out on investigation, to be "a mare's nest."

Dr. Forbes has taken some trouble with regard to the reports of the ill effects of ether. One case of such reports may be taken as an example of the rest. A man was said to have died of bleeding from the lungs in Guy's Hospital after taking ether during an operation for hernia. On inquiry at the hospital, the man was found to be still alive; and on being questioned as to the bleeding from his lungs, he stated that the day after the operation "he had pricked his gums while picking his teeth with a pin—and it was the product of *this* operation, not of the ether, seen in the spitting-pot by the patient's bedside, that was bruited about town as of itself sufficient to settle the question of etherization in all future time." Even the cases in which death has ensued shortly after operations under the influence of the agent in question give much more certain indications of having occurred independently of the ether than of having done so as a consequence of it. In two cases given by Dr. Forbes, we have little doubt that if a sufficient amount of the ether had been administered the patients' lives would have been saved.

At present, then, we think we may confidently state that no facts have been brought forward which ought to induce a moment's hesitation with regard to the use of this agent. Dr. Pickford, of Brighton, however, has propounded a theory of the action of ether which leads him to regard it as a very dangerous remedy. "Ætherization," he says, "has nothing in common with drunkenness, with asphyxia, with apoplexy, save the state of insensibility; but it has something far more alarming and dangerous than any or all of these conditions taken severally or collectively." If this be true, then persons who have taken ether are worse off than if they had got drunk, and fallen down in a fit of apoplexy—or been hanged! One would have expected that it must be some dreadful moral effect which was to be represented as resulting—some contamination of the mind compared with which drunkenness, apoplexy, or hanging are mere flea-bites. But, no!

The dreadful condition in question is one which affects the blood globules. They are changed by the ether from a healthy to a corrupt state; and according to Dr. Pickford, nobody ought to be in good health again after taking ether. How has the Doctor arrived at these results? Why, he has experimented upon blood out of the body:—and undoubtedly, if the moving blood in the living tissues of the veins and arteries could be acted on in the same way as dead blood in a basin, Dr. Pickford's conclusions would be just.—But the result of fallacious experiments like this does not demand a moment's notice when opposed to the great mass of evidence now existent in favour of the use of ether.

Professor Simpson's pamphlet speaks of a new application of this beneficent agent—to a set of cases in which it has been employed successfully to alleviate suffering of the most acute kind. We allude to those cases which introduce the individual into this world of multiform pain and suffering.

Doctor John Faust: a Puppet Play in Four Acts —[*Doctor Johanne Faust: Pupperspiel in vier aufzügen*]. Rendered by Karl Simrock. Frankfort, Brönner; London, Williams & Norgate.

THE 'Tragical History of the Life and Death of Doctor John Faustus' is one of the few original themes created by human invention. It is one of the still smaller number of those which appear to be a real property of modern Europe. The better knowledge of Eastern learning every year does something to narrow this scanty list, by discovering prior claims of oriental fabulists and sages to most of those prime and elementary germs of fiction which, in various combinations, have since their time amused or moved all classes of men. We are now informed that the main ideas of most of the stories current in the Middle Ages are proved to have been borrowed from older inventions. But the story of Faust, at least, seems to have been wholly our own; a genuine birth of the Gothic Christian mind — of that age which also brought forth the Reformation in Germany. The depth, solemnity and boldness of the idea on which it is cast reflect the features of a time when the gravest thoughts and most daring speculations, excited by a sudden growth and desire of knowledge secular and profane, were at once raising and troubling the spirits of men not yet fully awakened from the sleep of the Middle Ages or emancipated from its superstitions. The invention, springing thus from the very heart of the time, seized upon all minds with the force that a lively outward symbol of any strong internal tendency will always exert. Nor was this destined to be a passing impression only. The fable touches on conditions of our nature that belong to it at all times. Infinite ambition striving with limited powers — the proneness to forfeit a distant good for the immediate gratification of craving desires — the insatiable appetite which no excess of earthly delight can appease—that constitution of man, in short, which denies him rest on this side of the grave—are the inexhaustible theme of this striking legend. Its interest is drawn from perennial sources of human nature,—and must live while these continue to flow. From its first rise in the 16th century, it has been growing not merely on the popular imagination but over all classes of intellect. In our own time its progress has been in a manner consummated. We can hardly err in now regarding it as the only *mythus*, of later origin, that may probably be counted hereafter amongst the permanent heir-looms of the human race; since a distinguished genius has embodied with a master's skill the idea that lay beneath the old fable—giving to the dark enigma involved in it a voice as distinct, perhaps, as is possible in a subject from its nature boundless and inscrutable.

Before Goethe had done this, other poets had, more or less clearly, felt the mysterious charm of the subject, and treated it in a dramatic form —which also was one of its earliest modes of appearance amongst the common people. When it fell into the masculine hands of Marlowe, (whose tragedy, though irregular, soars into many noble flights and has passages of terrible solemnity) it had already been stirring the popular mind for some years, in so-called histories, story-books, and rude scenic performances. From these the works of the modern Germans who took up the story before Goethe were pretty closely drawn. Lessing's fragment does little more than improve on a single scene of the common puppet-play; and is not the happiest specimen of his powers. The tragedy by M. Müller pretty closely adheres to the same original; and is no very considerable work. Still less does Klingemann's melo-drama, which came out after Goethe's poem, deserve applause. It is the worst, indeed, to our mind, of all the modern plays on this story: and we are, on the whole, inclined to agree with Doctor Simrock, that the text of the common puppet-play as transcribed and completed in the book now before us is, after Goethe's, the most genial German version of the legend.

We have not space here to attempt a sketch of the people's theatre in Germany, or of that curious part of it to which the puppet-play belonged. It must suffice to say that until lately in many parts of the empire, these had existed from times anterior to the Reformation; delighting the vulgar at fairs and festivals with "subjects high and politic" (*Haupt und Staats actionien*) played by wooden actors to the recitation of the manager behind the scenes. The generally pompous style of their dialogue was usually relieved by the sallies of the established *gracioso*, Casperle,—a kind of high German *Traffaldino* or *Brighella;* whose part it was to enliven the serious matter exhibited with coarse jests and displays of a certain naïve and awkward cunning. Such delight have the vulgar in this character, that in Vienna and Munich, and in other towns perhaps, there are (or were until lately) theatres expressly devoted to plays in which he performs the chief *rôle*. But he was originally the comic hero of the puppet-booth. In the drama of 'Faust' now under notice he plays a conspicuous part; and brings into it the only element that is not in the highest degree serious and impressive.

Of these puppet theatres there were several extant within the last forty years. Some of them had fixed abodes (we read of one settled at Potsdam in the present century)—others were moved about from fair to fair. The text of the performances was, for the most part, preserved only in the memory of the exhibitor; who was thus apt to make continual alterations in the version which he had learnt by heart. Some of them, however, had their plays in part written down: certain pieces thought to be worth preserving were noted in shorthand by curious listeners, in later years. The substance of the play now before us has been compiled from one or two different originals in this manner. Parts had been taken down by hearers from the performances of the company of Schütz and Dreher—other passages supplied by a MS. written by *Mechanicus* Geiselbrecht; these having been some of the last of the true puppet showmen. The book used by the latter person was printed, for private circulation only, by Von Below, in 1832. Fragments had been given to the public by Horn, Von der Hagen, and others. The present edition by Doctor Simrock is the first attempt to present to the public a complete print of the drama;—the theatre on which it was acted being now extinct. The learned editor in undertaking this task has given a new proof of his care for the ancient literary traditions and popular poetry of Germany—which already owe much to his diligence in preserving their relics. We should have prized his labours on this occasion still more highly had he given the text in its native plainness; without attempting to improve or versify parts of it, as he confesses he has done. On the whole, however, the embellishment is not much; and we are assured that the transcript now published is essentially the very text of the puppet play of 'Faust' as collected from the readings of the most esteemed exhibitors. As the relic of a rude form of popular drama now no more, the work would in any case be interesting to the literary student. But besides this, as a dramatic piece merely, it is, as we have said, far from being contemptible. The outline is boldly drawn; in many passages there are vigour and poetical beauty; and a kind of homely warmth animates the language of the piece, which to us is more welcome than the smoothness of Lessing's frigid and ingenious refinements.

The play opens with Faust's usual soliloquy: which, however, is interrupted by *Voices* on his left and right—the one tempting him to undertake the study of magic, the other (his guardian angel) warning him not to forsake Divine learning. He yields to the worse suggestion; and exclaims, in answer to the Voice from the left:—

Thou art methinks of the Devil's kindred;—
Yet wilt thou make me happier and greater,
Such is my longing, I ask nought better;—
Voice on the right, avoid me!
Voice on the left hand, guide me!
Make me happy, and mighty, and whole—
Voice on the right. Wo! alas! for thy forfeit soul!
Many voices on the left. Hah! hah! ha!

Wagner, the *Famulus*, at this moment, announces the arrival of three students. They have asked leave to present to the Doctor a learned treatise. The title, 'Clavis Astarti de Magicâ,' informs Faust that his wish to enter on unhallowed studies is already granted. The act ends with the engagement of Casperle—a vagrant in search of a living—as servant in the Doctor's house. Of this part, which has no intimate connexion with the rest of the piece, while it jars throughout with the prevailing tone of tragic seriousness, we shall not attempt to give any idea by translation. Whatever *lazzi* and humour in it may have delighted the spectators cannot be easily made apparent in English;—although we confess that some of the sallies are very quaint and laughable. The general character of this established comic figure has already been described.

The second act opens with a fine idea. Faust is alone. The students, after leaving the magic work in his hands, have totally disappeared.

[*He opens the book, and murmurs some unintelligible words. A number of spirits appear in the form of apes, all hairy.*]

Faust. They are here at once, and numerous enough. But which of them shall I choose? I must ascertain what is the speed of each. Thou on this side, with the white horns, give answer: What is thy name?

1*st Spirit.* Vitzliputzli.

Faust. Declare how swift thou art?

1*st Sp.* As the snail that crawls in the sand.

Faust. Ha! for such speed as thine I want no spirit's help. Back, to the place thou camest from. *Apage, male spiritus.* The next! Thy name?

2*nd Sp.* Polümor.

Faust. Let me hear how swift art thou?

2*nd Sp.* As the leaf that falls from the bough.

Faust. I can myself at need be as quick as thou. Away to them that sent thee. *Apage, &c.* Let the next speak, and tell his name.

3*rd Sp.* Asmodeus.

Faust. This may be the right one. How swift art thou?

3*rd Sp.* As the stream that leaps from the rock.

In this manner the questioning goes on. *Astarot* is as swift as the bird in the air;

Auerhahn, "the red-headed one," as the ball from the cannon's mouth; *Haribax*, "with the blue feet," has the speed of the wind; *Megæra*, "the sooty-black," flies as fast as the plague; *Mephistopheles*, the seventh, replies that he is "*as swift as the thought of man*,"—and this is the spirit whom Faust chooses. He agrees to sell his soul to the Powers of Darkness, at the price of unlimited power and enjoyment for a term of "twenty-four years of three hundred and sixty-five days." The instant the consent is uttered, *a raven alights with the bond ready drawn*. It is signed with Faust's blood; and then the raven flies away with it. Faust sinks into a trance; during which the guardian angel mournfully passes by, taking leave, and bewailing the doom that awaits him. On the disappearance of the angel, Faust awakes—Mephistopheles returns—and master and servant are carried through the air to the Court of Parma. Another demon also carries Casperle thither. Here Faust exhibits the wonders of his powers, by cutting up various figures of ancient time, to amuse the Duke and ensnare his beautiful bride—in vain. The Duchess is, indeed, enamoured; but Mephistopheles stops Faust as he is following them to a banquet:—

Meph. Follow them not!
Faust. Aye! and wherefore, then?
Meph. Leave the court; fly, fly, as fast as you may.
Faust. What manner of speech is this?
Meph. If you love life, follow my advice.
Faust. Art thou mad? What can I have to fear?
Meph. Your life is in threefold peril. First, your wooing of the Duchess has made the Duke jealous. Therefore will he have you poisoned at his table.
Faust. Thou shouldst know how to prevent this.
Meph. All the hierarchy have been invited; in their presence I dare not appear at the banquet.
Faust. Thou art a very hero. Well,—and the second?
Meph. Secondly, there is a cauldron of boiling oil made ready for you. The Inquisition is on your track, because your exhibitions* do not agree with the Bible.
Faust. First headed, then hung! I am anxious to hear what number three may be.
Meph. Your man Casperle, with his conjuring words, has set the lower regions in a stir, and the common people in amazement. They take you, his master, for a dangerous wizard and poisoner. Even now they are trooping hither to despatch you.
Faust. Sure enough, with prince, people, and clergy allied against me, I must even give way—get me off at once. But I grieve for the Duchess; she, too, I guess, will be sorry to lose me.
Meph. I will give you Empresses in her stead. We fly straightway to Constantinople.

The catastrophe in the fourth and last act is managed with power and dramatic skill. The scene is again in Mentz.—

Faust (*alone—afterwards Mephistopheles*). Twelve years spent:—the whole world travelled over; and yet no joy, no pleasure! When I thought I had gold, nothing was there but chaff. The foaming cup of delight has bitter dregs; and how often has it been snatched from my lips, as if even here I were already doomed to a foretaste of the pangs of Hell! If for such empty shows I have played away eternal happiness, I have been a fool, an insane fool! In foreign lands I could endure no longer;—methought I must run to nothing when cut off from the spring that gave me life; and now that home-sickness has drawn me hither, all that I see in my native land is a gnawing reproof to me! How happy have I been here while yet a child, while I could still believe, still pray! And why can I pray no longer? Because I cannot believe? May I not? Why may I believe no longer? Here I have proof at hand. If there be a Devil, so is there a God! But that God I have renounced,—that God I have forsworn! Therefore I cannot pray; for prayer is a grace of Heaven, and for me there is none. O! how I do repent! Repentance! where repentance is, there is grace also! Had I but true repentance, perhaps there might yet be mercy, too, for me. (*Mephistopheles touches him on the shoulder; Faust perceiving him, starts back with a shudder.*) Thou here?

The interruption is well conceived. The close of this scene, too, will be thought striking. To the taunts of his familiar, Faust replies:—

Leave me,—Trouble me no more!
Meph. But I will trouble you. You must give me somewhat to do.
Faust. Must I? Be it so. Hearken then.
Meph. Speak.
Faust. Knowest thou, it stands written in our agreement that thou art bound to answer all questions I shall ask of thee, with plain truth?
Meph. I know that you were so foolish as to believe that the Father of Lies would speak the truth for you.

* Solomon, the Queen of Sheba, Samson and Dalilah, David and Goliath, had been made to appear, with some circumstances at variance with the authentic record of their history.

Faust. If thou doest not so, then our compact is broken.
Meph. I have never yet lied to you.
Faust. Listen, then, to what I ask now, and truly answer.
Meph. Ask.
Faust. Can I yet come to God? (*Mephistopheles stands shaking and trembling.*) Answer the very truth.
Mephistopheles (*stammering, and hardly audible*). I know not.
Faust. Thou dost know. Answer, or our pact is broken. Can I yet come to God?
(*Mephistopheles vanishes, howling.*)
Faust (*falling on his knees before an image of the Virgin, which is seen in a niche above*). Thanks to thee, Mother of Heaven! I am redeemed, rescued! O! I can pray once more,—again I can weep. The source of repentance is not dried up. (*Prays.*)

At this critical moment, when we are rejoicing in the hope of Faust's recovery, Mephistopheles brings forward his masterpiece of temptation, and dazzles the victim—on the point of escaping from his power—with a vision of Helen of Greece. At the sight of her ineffable beauty, Faust forgets everything but the desire to possess her. Mephistopheles will only grant this on condition of his again renouncing Him to whom he has lately been praying. Faust consents, and flies into the house with his prize; while Mephistopheles, spitefully laughing, remains on the stage. In a moment, Faust reappears, in fury and despair. Instead of the beauty he had expected, he has clasped a loathsome serpent in his embrace! Now that all is lost, he learns, too, that this is but the last deceit of the Evil One. Mephistopheles informs him that his term is already run out. The bond counted, indeed, twenty-four years—but of three hundred and sixty-five *days* only. The demon having served him by night as well, the whole period is already exhausted. Midnight approaches. "Dull voices" are heard from above, calling, "*Fauste, Fauste, accusatus es!*" He tries to pray to the Virgin once more,—but cannot. Her features change into the likeness of Helen:—"*Unsatisfied pleasure poisons the holiest feelings.*" Again the same "dull voices" are heard chanting in the air,—

He hath forsworn his God,
He is lost for ever!

The sequel is vigorously drawn,—in close accordance with the popular legend: but its effect is sadly marred by the interruptions of Casperle—whom we find installed, with an abominable scold of a wife, as night-watchman at Mentz. The rough humour and slyness of this character are, indeed, often provokingly droll; but we find his buffoonery quite intolerable when forced on us, without any reason, at the very instant of a terrible scene which has been so impressively prepared. In other respects, the manner in which the interest of this last act rises at the gleam of hope offered to Faust, and afterwards sinks into utter depair on the fatal trial of his weakness,—and still more when he discovers how miserably he has been deluded and mocked,—is in the highest degree tragical, and bespeaks a true dramatic genius in the unknown author who first schemed this famous "puppet play." We are persuaded that all who take an interest in the history of literature will be disposed to thank Dr. Simrock for having preserved so notable a performance from the oblivion to which it was hastening. Its absolute poetical merit, indeed, is such, that less studious admirers of *belles lettres* can hardly employ an hour more pleasantly than in reading this curious little volume:—which contains a few judicious notes by the learned Editor.

A Catholic History of England. By W. B. MacCabe, Esq. Vol. I. Newby.

Barante's 'History of the Dukes of Burgundy,' one of the most interesting works of our age, derives most of its charms from the skill with which the author has interwoven in his narrative the picturesque descriptions of the old chronicles; while at the same time he keeps constantly in view a critical estimate of their value as evidence and authority. Mr. Mac Cabe has adopted a different course: he has formed a mosaic of the monkish historians, very artistically put together—but without supplying any criterion for determining the accuracy of the drawing or the truth of the colouring. Now, before receiving such a compilation as history, we should like to have known something of Mr. MacCabe's qualifications as a judge of evidence, and had some statement of the principles by which he was guided in selecting portions of the monkish narrative and rejecting others. So far as we can judge from the volume before us, he appears to be a man of excessive credulity; for he places among the facts of history those miraculous legends which the monks, with great poverty of invention, have inserted in the chronicles of almost every country in Europe. He records with implicit faith the tale of the miracle by which the contest between the Pelagians and the orthodox Britons was decided; though clearly taken from a general stock of legends.—

"It was at this moment, that a person vested with the powers of a tribune, and accompanied by his wife, on a sudden presented himself in the midst of the multitude, and tendered his daughter, a child ten years of age, to the priests in order that they might cure her of the blindness with which she was afflicted. The priests desired the child might first be brought to their adversaries; but these, now completely conscience-stricken, joined their prayers to the request of the parent for the cure of the young girl. The priests, seeing that their opponents were disposed towards the truth, gave vent to their piety in a short prayer. Germanus, filled with the Holy Spirit, invoked the aid of the Divine Trinity, and then removing from his side the small casket containing the relics of the Saints, he, in the view of all applied it to the eyes of the child, and instantly the darkness that had clouded her vision was dispersed, and the light of truth shone upon them. The parents rejoiced; but the people trembled at this miracle: and from that day forth, the pernicious error was obliterated, while the doctrines of the Church were imbibed by all, who now showed an eagerness to receive, and a determination to retain them."

He even repeats this test and miracle in the case of the dispute between St. Augustine and the Britons; without seeming to have the slightest idea that the repetition is conclusive evidence of the falsehood of both statements.—

"An Englishman, deprived of sight, was brought into the midst of the synod. He was first presented, to the British priests; but no alleviation, much less a cure for his affliction was received through their ministry. Then Augustine, forced by a great and just necessity, fell upon his knees, and prayed aloud to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that He would be pleased to restore that vision to the blind man, which he had lost, so that by the bodily illumination of one man, the hearts of many faithful might be filled with the burning light of spiritual grace. The blind saw!—light was given to his eyes, and Augustine was proclaimed by all, as the preacher of that which was true. The British Priests confessed that Augustine had pointed out the true path of justice."

Mr. MacCabe does not deal fairly with us. If he does not believe these legends he ought not to have given them a place in his 'Catholic History;' and if he does believe them, he should have given us a more ample store—especially as many of them would add largely to the amusement, though not much to the instruction, of his hearers. We desiderate the history of that sinner whose blackened corpse burst from the tomb and walked out of church when a holy man preached; and when interrogated by the saint declared that this was a punishment inflicted on him for not duly paying his tithes. But the author does record the miraculous punishment of St. Laurence for his cowardice in

designing to follow his brethren to France when he despaired of the conversion of England.—

"Laurence proposed following them; and when he was on the point of quitting Britain, he directed, that his bed should be laid in the porch of the Church dedicated to the blessed apostles, Peter and Paul. There, having fervently prayed, and bitterly wept, over the fallen state of the Church in this country, he at length stretched his limbs upon his humble pallet, and fell asleep. In his sleep, the most blessed prince of the apostles appeared to him, and then, in the dead hour of the night, afflicted his body with stripes, and shook his soul with severe rebukes—asking him, how he could separate himself from a flock that had been confided to him; or why the shepherd was to fly and leave his sheep in the midst of wolves—'How,' said the blessed Peter, 'have you been forgetful of my example, who for the sake of the little ones entrusted, as a proof of His love to me, by Christ, have endured chains, stripes, imprisonment, afflictions, death itself, and even the death of the cross, in order that I might save them from infidels, and the enemies of Christ; and at last be crowned with Him, in the glory of martyrdom.' The servant of God, Laurence, became, by these stripes and exhortations of St. Peter, animated with courage, and as soon as day dawned, he hastened to the king, and removing the vestment that covered his shoulders, he let the sovereign see how they had been lacerated by severe blows. The latter was astonished at the sight—he inquired who it was that presumed to inflict such injuries upon a man so high, so great, and so respected as the Archbishop; and when he was informed that it was for his salvation the prelate had suffered these afflictions and pains, a sudden fear overwhelmed him—his heart was filled with abhorrence of the idolatry to which he had lent himself. He abandoned his unholy and illegal marriage—he received the faith of Christ—and he, thenceforward, did his utmost to aid, by word and act, in the promotion of true religion, and the sustainment of the Church."

Another specimen of the 'Catholic History' relates to Oswald's cross.—

"Innumerable miracles—as a proof and perpetual memorial of the piety of the sovereign—are known to have been effected on that spot, where he prayed in presence of his army; and even to this very day, small chips taken from the wood of that cross and placed in water of which men or cattle have drunk, or been sprinkled, have been known to restore them to health from a state of sickness."

Let us add one more, relating to the same Oswald.—

"The king was seated, with the Bishop Aidan, as his guest, on the holy festival of Easter. The dinner of which they were about to partake was placed on the table before them; and their hands were raised to bless the food, when the King's servant, whose duty it was to supply the wants of the needy, hastily entered the room to state that a multitude, apparently gathered from all parts of the country, had collected together in the streets, and were asking alms from their sovereign. The dinner on the table consisted of the most dainty food arranged upon one large silver salver. The king pointed to it—desired all to be given to the poor, and the silver itself, broken into small pieces, and divided amongst them. The prelate, who was seated at the table by the side of the king, charmed with this act of charity, grasped the hand which had directed the servant towards the performance of this good deed, and exclaimed—'May this hand never perish!' It was a benediction destined to be fulfilled; for when this generous sovereign was afterwards killed in battle—the hand, that had thus been blessed was with the arm cut from the body, and both remain to this day, free from the taint of corruption."

To this day! Let Mr. MacCabe tell us in what part of England the wonderful relic may be seen. Bede, his authority for the legend, would have told him that even in his time the relic was enclosed in a silver shrine to prevent the detection of the imposture.

It is not creditable to the nineteenth century that such idle legends as we have quoted, and many others at least equally absurd, should be presented to the world as a 'Catholic History.' We shall soon have the Golden Legend presented to us as a sober collection of biographies, if such substitutions of credulity for criticism be allowed to pass unquestioned.

History of the Girondins—[*Histoire des Girondins, &c.*] By M. A. de Lamartine. Vols. IV. and V.

[Second Notice.]

THE failure of the attack on Robespierre was one of the greatest, though not the most ostensible, triumphs which the Jacobins ever obtained over their antagonists—whose increasing weakness it fully exposed. The Montagnards were not slow in perceiving their advantage; and, resolved to strike a yet more decisive blow ere the members of the Gironde should have time to rally.

The deposed King—imprisoned with his family in the Temple—was an obstacle in the path of the Montagnards, of which they determined to rid themselves at their adversaries' expense. What is to be done with Louis the Sixteenth?—was a question which for some months had been agitated in the Convention and by the nation. No circumstances were possible which should restore to him the lost confidence of the people or replace him on the throne. He had played out his kingly part; and had nothing more to do on the great scene of the Revolution. The nation might have condemned the monarch by proclaiming the Republic—yet restored the man to life and liberty. But they had neither courage nor magnanimity for such a course. After five months of interval between his deposition and trial, the Montagnards—who represented popular opinion—resolved in cold blood on the sacrifice of their victim—not to the necessity of circumstances, but to the gratification of their own ambitious and vindictive views. It is in this sense especially that the trial and execution of Louis the Sixteenth have been justly termed a judicial murder. Of the sufferings endured by the Royal Family in their prison of the Temple M. de Lamartine has given a long and pathetic account. Strongly denouncing the follies and weaknesses of Louis, he yet contrives to enlist the sympathies of his reader in favour of the unhappy King. His narrative style is as simple as it is eloquent. There is in his relation no seeking after effect, no theatrical artifice for exciting the reader's curiosity,—but a plain, yet singularly touching, relation of the royal misfortunes.

The seeming contradiction which this association of blame and commiseration might seem to involve is explained by the monarch's character—not attributable to the historian. While as a king Louis was weak and vacillating—as a man he had qualities of a high order. It is for the man and his family that M. de Lamartine's compassion is awakened. He himself explains his feelings on the subject by observing, that even in the holiest revolutions there are misfortunes so great that "opinion becomes silent, theory ceases to be implacable, and History, forgetting awhile her leaning to the cause of nations, has no side or duty but that of pity. History herself, that interpreter of the human heart, has her tears; but these, though they may make her relent, cannot blind her."

The sufferings of Louis and his family are too well known to be dwelt on here. It will be more interesting to mark the respective parts taken by the Girondins and the Montagnards in the King's trial and condemnation. The opinions of the two parties on this important subject were very distinct. The Jacobins thought, with Robespierre, that the King's acquittal or sentence to perpetual imprisonment or exile was the condemnation of the Revolution and of all their acts. The Girondins, on the contrary, shrank in horror from shedding the blood of the deposed monarch. Such a deed they regarded as one of unqualified cowardice—calculated to impress an indelible stain on the cause of the Republic which they sought to keep pure and unsullied. The Montagnards knew these feelings of the Girondins; and their object was to compel the latter either to reveal their opinions and so become odious to the people—who would suspect them of royalist tendencies—or, otherwise, to sacrifice their conscience to the safety of their party. The Girondins saw the snare; and long hesitated on the adoption of a plan to defeat it. Finally, instead of placing themselves above public opinion by braving it in the cause of humanity, as they had done for the massacres of September, they took a middle path; sanctioned the trial of the King, which was another name for his condemnation—and proposed the appeal to the people by means of which they hoped whilst condemning his past conduct to save his life. The Girondins should at this time have foreseen their ruin; and perceived clearly the two paths that were open to them—both leading to their fall. By pursuing the one, they might have saved the monarch, kept their own honour inviolate, and preserved the ideal Republic which they worshipped from the odium of a deed as useless as it was cruel:—by the other, they contributed to the death of a prince whom they pitied and in some respects admired, and identified themselves, too, with their opponents the sanguinary Montagnards.

Yet it would be unjust to assert that the Girondins were induced to the course which they adopted by personal fears. It was to the love of their fame, the fear of being wrongly suspected, that they sacrificed the King. For temporary popularity they bartered their true renown and darkened the glory of their final martyrdom.

On the trial of Louis the Sixteenth M. de Lamartine dwells lightly. After giving the well-known details of the King's execution, he examines at length the long agitated question of the right which the nation possessed over the life of Louis. A few extracts will show under what aspect he views this subject.—

The judge should be essentially impartial and disinterested; and the nation was neither the one nor the other. In the terrible but unavoidable struggle which, under the name of revolution, was taking place between royalty and freedom—for the emancipation or enslavement of the people—Louis personified the throne and the nation liberty. * * Between these two opponents, the King and the People, there could be no court of appeal but the combat—no other judge than victory. * * Louis the Sixteenth was neither wholly innocent nor entirely guilty;—he was, above all, unfortunate. If the people had to reproach him with weakness and dissimulation, he could tax the people with having exposed him to cruel and violent insults. * * The faults were mutual, the perils equal: which, then, possessed the right of condemning the other and saying thou shalt die? Neither. The King had no more right, had the triumph been his, to have judged the people than the people had now to judge the King. A legal trial was a mockery of justice. The axe only was logical:—and this Robespierre said. But the axe after the struggle—striking a disarmed man in the name of his foes—is in every language termed cold-blooded manslaughter; without palliation, since it is done without necessity! * * Was the death of the King necessary, even as a measure of public safety? We must first ask if it was according to justice—because nothing that is unjust can be necessary to the cause of nations. The right, the beauty and the holiness of that cause consist in the morality of its actions. The life or death of Louis the Sixteenth did not weigh a bayonet more or less in the scale of the republican destinies. * * Of all his race, Louis was the one prince to whom a future reign was impossible. Beyond the frontiers, he was discredited by his own concessions; allowed to remain within them, he would

have been the patient and inoffensive hostage of the Republic—the ornament of her triumph and the living proof of her magnanimity. His death, on the contrary, alienated from the French cause that immense portion of the nations which judges events with the heart only. Human nature is sympathetic: the Republic forgot this—and affixed to Royalty the prestige of martyrdom and to Freedom the menace of vengeance. Thereby, she prepared a reaction against her own cause; and enlisted in that of royalty the feelings, interest and tears of nations. * * There was an infusion of the blood of Louis in the oil which anointed Napoleon so soon after the vows uttered to freedom. The blood of Louis was, yet, in the monarchical enthusiasm created in France by the return of the Bourbons at the epoch of the Restoration! It was still there in 1830—in that aversion to the name of a republic which threw the hesitating nation into the arms of a new dynasty! The republicans it is who have most to deplore the blood that was shed—for it has fallen ever on their own cause; and they have paid for it the Republic itself!

A large part of M. de Lamartine's fifth volume is filled with the account of Dumouriez's campaign on the frontiers of Belgium. This portion of the history of republican France, at least, is stainless. The most ardent patriotism animated the men—most of them raw recruits—who repelled the foreign invaders of their country and perished in its defence.

The death of the King wholly estranged Dumouriez from the Jacobins. On the Girondins he looked with contempt, as on a party unworthy of confidence; and the cause of the Revolution itself became to him of minor importance. His tendencies were strictly monarchical; and it was on the young Duke de Chartres that he now cast his eyes as a fit pretext, if not an instrument, for his great and ambitious designs. His high birth, affable manners, bravery and patriotism, had made the Duke a favourite with the army; but, whatever his natural talents, he was too young to act a part of political importance. The party of his father, called the Faction of Orléans, was one of the weakest and most discredited in all France; and the attempt to secure to the young duke or his father a share in the government of the country was, therefore, an act of mere madness, which could not but fail. Yet, had the republican general made the attempt in mere reliance on his own popularity and the aid of his army for success, he would have escaped the name of traitor which his plan of delivering up the country to the enemy has attached to his memory for ever.

The treason of one of her best and ablest generals filled France with astonishment and indignation:—and proved highly injurious to the Girondins. These had no share in it whatever; but the Montagnards bitterly reproached them with their former friendship for Dumouriez. Then it was that the ill-fated party began to see how little they had gained in public opinion by the sacrifice of the King. Even their enemies, with Danton and Robespierre at their head, had on that occasion taxed them with cowardice. For the error, however, which it was no longer in their power to repair, the party now endeavoured to atone by the bravery with which they accepted the unequal combat offered by their antagonists. One of the first moves which they had to resist—though, for the misfortune of France, unsuccessfully—was the foundation of the terrible Revolutionary Tribunal; destined to be the ruin of both those who opposed and those who favoured its establishment. Danton and the Montagnards prevailed; the tribunal was established—and immediately began to act. Justice was at first impartially administered; but whilst it was sought to lull the Girondins by this fair-seeming, repeated attempts against their power and lives were made in private. Using Marat as an instrument, their foes exasperated the populace against the moderate party, —and prepared for the memorable 31st of May. Then began that life of constant alarm and anxiety which the Girondins were to lead until their death. The members of the party numbered now about twenty-two,—all openly designated to the public vengeance. Only the most daring or indifferent amongst them ventured to sleep at home:—Louvet and Roland were constantly obliged to change their lodgings. Madame Roland, who feared for her husband and child still more than for herself, prepared for a journey to the south of France—where they possessed some property and might consider themselves comparatively safe. As she was one of those whom Marat had most virulently attacked, she never slept without pistols under her pillow, lest her house should be broken open at night by the infuriated populace. Vergniaud alone seemed indifferent to his fate; and made no attempt to evade it whatever its nature might be.

One of the last blows inflicted on the Gironde party before their fall was the final determination of Danton in favour of the Montagnards. Almost maddened by the repeated taunts of the party—whom he had hitherto spared from hatred to Robespierre rather than sympathy with men by whom his offers of conciliation had been constantly repelled—he attacked them at length with the utmost vehemence from the ranks of their enemies. It was now evident that the cause of the Girondins was finally lost. Robespierre demanded their accusation; and petitions to the same effect were constantly pouring upon the Convention from all the sections of Paris. The party knew their fate; and determined to meet it bravely. They resolved to perish in the Convention itself rather than relinquish their right of assisting in its meetings. Counselled to fly—they spurned the counsel. As it was rumoured, however, that the Convention would be attacked by the people, and the obnoxious members murdered in the tumult, they attended its *séances*, in the royal palace of the Tuileries, armed with sword and pistol. The rest they left to fate. Such was the state of affairs shortly before the 31st. All France seemed conscious that some great change was on the eve of taking place; and watched with breathless attention the progress of events—but few remarks were exchanged on the subject. The country even seemed tranquil externally:—but it was the tranquillity which forebodes the coming tempest.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Reminiscences of Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Robert Southey. By Joseph Cottle.—We are somewhat surprised at the reproduction of this painful work, with large additions. When, ten years ago, it was issued under the title of 'Recollections of S. T. Coleridge' only, it called forth an amount of castigation which we should have thought might have deterred Mr. Cottle from a renewal and exaggerated evidence of his bad taste. The share, too, which he ascribes to Mr. Southey in the transaction, adds to the offence. No man having the proper sympathy and reverence for the genius of either the late laureate or his gifted friend, would have unnecessarily obtruded such a correspondence on the world. That the opinions therein expressed regarding Mr. Coleridge were not the deliberate convictions of Mr. Southey's mind, there can be no doubt: they were, on the face of them, hasty ebullitions of passion and chagrin—repented of as soon as uttered. Their error is equally obvious. They contemplate the character of the man from a false point of view; and make no difference for the variety of tastes and pursuits in literature. The assumption that Coleridge could lead precisely the same life and devote himself to the same channels of industry as Mr. Southey did—and that, moreover, he ought to have done so—is both practically and psychologically absurd. Mr. Coleridge might labour as a literary man for truth; but was morally incapacitated from doing so for the market. This he himself knew; and whoever understands the character of his mind will know it, too.

A Picture Book without Pictures. By Hans Christian Andersen. From the German Translation of De la Motte Fouqué. By Meta Taylor.—"A poem without rhyme," "a concert without sound,"—either title would befit this delicious little book as well as the one already bestowed on it. Mrs. Taylor's, however, is not the first translation—Mrs. Howitt having already done the 'Picture Book' into English for one of the periodicals. But the charm of Andersen does not wear off with continuance of our acquaintance; and Mrs. Taylor is correct and, for a foreigner, singularly elegant in her management of English.

English Life, Social and Domestic, in the Middle of the Nineteenth Century. By the Author of 'Reverses.'—This little volume—ascribed, we believe truly, to the lady of an eminent prelate—is designed to examine and illustrate the effect of our advanced civilization on the duties of social and domestic life; to point out what perfection social morals have attained in theory, and what errors have been permitted to creep into practice. This inquiry is undertaken in a most parental spirit. In every page it is manifest that a mother is speaking,—a mother who deems nothing frivolous that may involve important consequences to her children. In such a spirit she examines that great social problem—How may the young mix with the world and avoid the contamination of the evil principles with which it abounds? To this the ascetic curtly replies, "Come out, and be separate:" the mother refutes such solution of the doubt, and exposes the error on which it is based by a discussion of particulars.

Jottings from my Sabretasch. By a Chelsea Pensioner.—"Not one *jot* more!" were we disposed to exclaim on closing this ten-thousandth collection of military reminiscences. It is not so good as some of its predecessors—not worse than others; but the grace and attractive of freshness are wanting to it. Its subjects, adventures, pleasantries and pathetics are all as familiar to the general reader as "Sanconiathon, Manetho, and Berosus" were to Dr. Primrose. For those who meditate exchanging the sword for the pen, we are tempted to exclaim—Give us Peterloo, or Nottingham, or Bristol, if you cannot stretch so far as Chusan or the Khyber Pass. Tell us of parades at Windsor and sojourns at Weedon (nearly as monotonous as quarantine);—but "not one jot more," we beseech you, of the "Peninsula" or of the great Duke!

A Synopsis of Criticisms upon those Passages of the Old Testament in which Modern Commentators have differed from the Authorized Version; together with an Explanation of Various Difficulties in the Hebrew and English texts. By the Rev. R. A. F. Barrett, M.A., Fellow of King's College, Cambridge.—If subjects like that before us were adapted to the *Athenæum*, we should have much pleasure in devoting some space to this 'Synopsis,'—which is really one of the most important contributions that has been made for many years to the criticism of the Old Testament. The design of the present work takes it out of the range within which, as our readers know, the *Athenæum* undertakes to be critical; and may be best explained in the words of the author's preface:—"The object of the present work is to lay before the reader the principal alterations which modern Critics have proposed in the Authorized Version of the Old Testament, together with the reasons for or against such emendations. The plan usually adopted throughout the work has been to give, in the following order, The Hebrew text; The Septuagint version, taken from the Vatican copy, unless otherwise specified; The Authorized Version; and, lastly, the explanations both of those Commentators who support the present version and also of those who consider the Hebrew text to be corrupt or to have been misunderstood by our Translators."—How far the present work is to extend cannot be known, even to the learned author; but no trade considerations should be allowed to limit the extent of the scale on which it has commenced. If continued as it has been begun, it will eventually reach the hands of most biblical students and most scholars,—as well as of the clergy, whom it may be supposed more immediately to concern.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Archbold's Practice of New County Courts, 2nd ed. 8s. bds.
Register's (Mrs.) Knitted Collar and Collaret Book, square, 1s. swd.
Rashforth's (F.) Tables for Earthworks, with Slide Table, 8vo. 7s. 6d.
Black Book of England, 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.
Book of Knitted Lace (The), square, 6d. swd.
Blackley's (Rev. W.) Scripture Teaching; or, a Pastor's Offering, 5s.
Castles in the Air, a Novel, by Mrs. Gore, 3 vols. 31s. 6d. bds.
Castlereagh's (Viscount) Journey to Damascus, 2 vols. 24s. cl.
Christison's Recueil de Fables et Contes Choisis, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
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Davidson's (W.) Treatise on Diet, fc. 8vo. 5s. cl.
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Eastlake's (C. L.) Materials for a History of Oil Painting, 8vo. 16s. cl.
Fairbairn's (Rev. P.) Typology of Scripture, 12mo. 7s. cl.
Fouqué's (De la Motte) Four Seasons, from the German, 12mo. 10s. 6d.
From Oxford to Rome, by a Companion Traveller, 2nd ed. 12mo. 6s.
Gaugain's (Mrs.) Crochet Miscellany, 1s. 6d. oblong, swd.
Goethe's Faust, a Tragedy, translated by Lewis Filmore, 4s. 6d. cl.
Ken's Lonely Hearth, Songs of Isreal, and other Poems, fc. 8vo. 5s.
Landsborough's Arran, a Poem; and Excursions to Arran, 5s. 6d. cl.
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Lee (E.) On Hydropathy and Homœopathy, 3rd ed. post 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
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Mahan's (H. V.) Homœopathic Practitioner's Vade Mecum, 18mo. 5s.
Marcet's (Mrs.) Willy's Travels on the Railroad, 18mo. 2s. 6d. hf-bd.
Parish Choir, Church Music, royal 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.
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Rowbotham's (J.) Spanish and English Conversation, 3rd ed. 3s. 6d.
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Spence's (Rev. J.) Tractarian Heresy, a Voice from Oxford, fc. 8vo. 3s.
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Standard Novels, Vol. CVII. 'The Dog-Fiend,' fc. 8vo. 6s. cl.
Steward (Dr. J. B.) On Dyspepsia, post 8vo. 4s. cl.
Stuart's (M.) Commentary on the Apocalypse, 8vo. 12s. 6d. cl.
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Syntax's (Dr.) Tour in Search of the Picturesque, 32mo. 2s. cl.
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SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S EXPEDITION.

THE party of Royal Sappers and Miners who are to form the "searching" party to be despatched on a boat expedition in quest of Sir John Franklin and his party in case no intelligence of them should reach England before next spring (as we were the first to announce in the *Athenæum*, *ante*, p. 466), have embarked, it is stated, on board the Prince Rupert and the Westminster. The detachment consists of one corporal, two lance corporals, and twelve privates; all of whom have been examined by Sir John Richardson, and selected from Woolwich, Chatham, and Sandhurst out of a large number who volunteered for the expedition. The instructions to the party are, to land at Fort Jack, and proceed to the Company's station on the Mackenzie river,—where they are to winter; and in the event of a doubt still hanging over the fate of the Arctic voyagers, they will be joined by Sir John Richardson in the spring of 1848. The men are all to be teetotallers:—that is, no grog or spirits will be served out to them; but they will receive double pay and rations, and have an abundant supply of pemican, or the dried flesh of the buffalo. Winter dresses, prepared from the skin of the moose deer, are also provided for them; and every provision has been made to enable them to meet the rigours of the climate. They are all accustomed to boats,—which they will have in continual use on the Mackenzie; and have been selected from the trades of carpenters, smiths, &c.

Meantime, Dr. King, having desired to address Lord Grey through our columns on this important subject, we have given up to his letter an amount of space which the great interest of the question raised justifies.

To the Right Hon. Earl Grey.

27, Sackville Street, 10th June, 1847.

My Lord,—One hundred and twenty-six men are at this moment in imminent danger of perishing from famine. Sir John Franklin's Expedition to the North Pole in 1845, as far as we know, has never been heard of from the moment it sailed. An attempt to save our countrymen, if not by the all-powerful efforts of government, by the ever-watchful British public will be made. The exploring party were well aware of this when they started; for they knew that Sir John Ross was not allowed to die the death of famine, nor Col. Conolly and Capt. Stoddart that of the sword, without an effort being made for their relief. I trust, my Lord, the British Government are now fully aware of the wishes of the public in regard to the lives of their men of travel and of war. If the course adopted since Queen Elizabeth's time in regard to Polar Discovery Expeditions has hitherto been one of profound secrecy scarcely worthy the honourable service in which they have been engaged—and no one knows whither the one hundred and twenty-six lost men were intended to wander, for all is at this moment conjecture beyond the walls of the Admiralty—in future let the service be one of public competition; and let the attempt that is to be made to save Sir John Franklin from his hard fate, in Christian charity, be made fully public, that the proposed plans—for there will doubtless be several—may be discussed, and therein be raised a praiseworthy competition which will, at all events, have the semblance of an endeavour to follow the right course. It is greatly to be regretted that Lord Stanley did not entertain the plan which I proposed for acting by land in concert with Sir John Franklin's expedition by sea. It is scarcely possible that the two services could have missed each other: therefore there would not have been that anxiety for the fate of Sir John Franklin which now exists, nor the necessity which is now paramount for the most active and energetic exertions for his rescue. My proposal was couched in the following terms:—

"27, Sackville Street, 20th Feb. 1845.

"My Lord,—As it is determined to prosecute the discovery of the North-West Passage by sea from east to west, I can fairly approach your Lordship to propose for adoption the following plan for a land party:—

"I propose that a party of two officers, one of the medical profession, a boat carpenter, and thirteen men fully equipped for the service should leave Montreal in Canada sufficiently early to reach the Athabasca Lake in July. Here half the baggage should be left, and the boat carpenter and two men should remain in order to build a boat twenty-eight feet long—an occupation of three weeks. The explorers should then proceed to the head waters of the Fish River to fix upon an eligible position to winter. The route to the Fish River from the Athabasca Lake is well known to the Indians and fur traders, and is minutely described in 'King's Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Arctic Ocean.' The winter establishment fixed, one officer and five men, with an Indian guide, should return to the Athabasca Lake; and having despatched the boat carpenter with the Indian guide and the two men to the Fish River party, there to build a second boat, proceed in the newly-built boat *vid* the Slave and Mackenzie Rivers to the Great Bear Lake, the wintering post of two of the overland journeys. The parties—which, for convenience, it will be as well to call the eastern and western party—having securely housed themselves, should at once adapt their means to their ends in getting through the winter and providing for the future. To collect and hoard provisions, and to pave the way to the Polar Sea, so as to be on its shores as early as the navigation will permit, and to observe all and everything in the vast field before them, are the main features of an arctic winter with a land party. The western party will be further occupied in transporting—as the traveller Simpson—their boat to the Coppermine River, and the eastern party their boat to the Great Fish River. As soon as these rivers are open the Expedition must be in progress: the one detachment for Cape Britannia or Ripon Island, as it was once called, and the other for Victoria Land,—the one to ascertain the connexion of the mainland with that of North Somerset or of Melville Peninsula, and if the former, the character of its western land; and the other to trace Victoria Land westerly, with the view of testing its value relatively to the North-West Passage. To enter further into detail is unnecessary until the service is determined upon; but in order that my ability to supply the minutest detail may not be questioned, I take leave to state that I led the mission in search of Sir John Ross not only into but out of the polar regions.

"In two instances, overland journeys have been set in motion to aid expeditions sent by sea; and it cannot be questioned that the knowledge of such a journey as I propose being in progress from west to east, under a determined leader, would mainly assist in raising that moral courage which is requisite in pushing an adventurous way through an unknown sea. As it now stands, Sir John Franklin will have to 'take the ice'—as the pushing through an ice-blocked sea is termed—in utter ignorance of the extent of his labours; and, in case of difficulty, with certainly no better prospect before him than that which befel Sir John Ross: whose escape from a perilous position of four years' standing is admitted by all to have been almost miraculous. I have contended against the present attempt by sea from an honest conviction of its impracticability in the present state of our knowledge of arctic lands; and, except the journey which I propose is undertaken, it is no difficult matter to foresee that the grand problem will actually be in abeyance. My position now is very different to that of 1836. I was then unknown; and from the simplicity and economy of my views considered a visionary. Nine years have altered the state of things. The views put forward by me in 1836 in favour of a land journey have been verified: the Government Expedition in the Terror has failed: and the little band of adventurers, led by the most successful of the polar travellers, the intrepid Simpson,—after my own economical fashion—have astonished the most sanguine geographers of the day. Well pleased should I have been if that intelligent traveller had lived to complete his task, so ably begun; and then he who is now addressing your Lordship would not have intruded himself upon your notice. It cannot be denied that I was mainly instrumental in directing the spirit of enterprise again to the North, at a period when the surveys of Sir John Ross and Sir George Back were fresh before the Government—supported by their powerful testimony 'that there were fewer temptations than ever for making any fresh attempt at solving the grand geographical problem of three centuries:' and my restless activity on this subject continued until the 'ill-starred voyage in the Terror' in command of Sir George Back, and the successful overland journey in command of Mr. Simpson, were determined upon. My last effort in regard to the expedition in the Terror closed with the words—'That those who were sanguine as to the success of that enterprise would be grievously mistaken; and should that insane portion of the instructions, the crossing the isthmus dividing the waters of Wager Bay from Regent Inlet, be attempted, the most disastrous results might be expected.' How far I was correct, the Government has sad proof. Although I do not cherish the most distant idea of again having an opportunity of pleading in favour of a polar journey under my own charge—seeing that I have pleaded nine years in vain—I am as alive as ever to the progress of arctic discovery; and I do hope that your Lordship will entertain the plan here submitted. Your Lordship will have no difficulty in finding volunteers for such a service; but in order to meet any difficulty of this nature, I am ready to volunteer the whole command, or part of the command, with any officer your Lordship may appoint, provided that he is of my own age and in possession of the same amount of physical capability. I have the honour to be, &c. RICHARD KING.

"To the Right Honourable Lord Stanley."

With these few words of introduction I take leave to address your lordship under three heads. The probable position of the Polar Expedition; the condition of the Polar lands about it; and the best means of saving it.

In the outset I have a difficulty, owing to the route of Sir John Franklin not having been officially announced. Sir John Barrow, in his private capacity has, however, stated in his 'History of Arctic Voyages,' that it is by Barrow Strait and the Sea washing North Somerset on the one side and Banks and Wollaston Land on the other;—which may be presumed to be correct, as he was the official who drew up the orders given to Sir John Franklin on his departure.

The position, then, that I should assign to the lost Expedition is the western land of North Somerset,—the midway between the settlements of the Hudson's Bay Company on the Mackenzie and the fishing grounds of the whalers in Barrow Strait. If Sir John Franklin has attempted to make a short cut westward instead of sailing southward along the western land of North Somerset, and wrecked himself on Banks and Wollaston Land,—he has run headlong into that danger of which I expressly warned him in the following words:—"If we direct our attention to the movements of the various Polar Sea Expeditions, which have been set afloat since 1818, we find that in every instance the difficulties arose from the same cause—the clinging to lands having an eastern aspect. Sir Edward Parry, in his second expedition, made attempts for two successive summers to penetrate the eastern entrance of the Fury and Hecla Strait,—and failed; and in his third expedition he lost the Fury while pushing his way along the eastern land of North

Somerset. Sir John Ross in his second expedition was four years advancing four miles along the same eastern land; and was at last obliged to abandon his vessel. Captains Lyon and Back made separately unsuccessful attempts to reach Repulse Bay,—which has an eastern aspect. How, it may be inquired, is this general difficulty to be avoided? By taking the road which is fairly open to us,—the lands that have a western aspect."

If, however, Banks and Wollaston Land should form the resting-place of the Erebus and Terror it will not be that of the Expedition. If the party have kept together (and woe be to them if they have not!) they will take to their boats and make for the western land of North Somerset; for the double purpose of reaching Barrow Strait in search of the northern whalers, as Sir John Ross did successfully, and the Great Fish River in search of Esquimaux for provision,—or for letter conveyance to the Copper Indians, with whom the Esquimaux are now in friendly relation. It is to the western land of North Somerset that we must direct our attention—to that spot we must bend our course.

North Somerset is a peninsula, forming the north-eastern corner of North America, the western shore of Regent Inlet, and the eastern shore of the Great Fish River estuary. At least, such it is represented to us by Sir John Ross,—and such I believe it to be; for the evidence in favour of it is very convincing, while that which has been adduced against it is mere conjecture. In a practical point of view, however, it is of very little moment whether the character of North Somerset is insular or peninsular; and I can therefore spare your Lordship's time by avoiding to give you proof of this,—which would fill a volume, in consequence of the importance that has been put upon it, in support of the theory of a North-West Passage at the bottom of Regent Inlet.

The western land of North Somerset can easily be reached by a party travelling overland from Canada; and it cannot be denied that a land journey affords the only sure mode of *extending* our geographical knowledge, and therefore the only sure *ladder* by which to reach Sir John Franklin. In practice, however, it is necessary to know whether the question mooted has science or humanity in view:—for, in the former case, it is argued that expeditions by sea are the best, and in the latter journeys by land; although there is always tacked on to these even larger promises of advancement to geographical science than is made in the other. I confess I could never understand the logic of the argument; but it is not less a matter of truth—for the scientific expedition which Sir John Franklin now commands was set afloat in the face of the following facts:—that seven of the ten Polar Sea expeditions could be thus briefly described: Capt. Lyon's expedition was modestly called by him 'An unsuccessful attempt to reach Repulse Bay;' in the body of the narrative of Capt. Back's expedition will be found the same tale which Capt. Lyon gave on his title-page; Capt. Ross returned after four years wintering, without advancing a step towards the object in view; Capt. Parry failed in his attempt to reach the Polar Sea by Regent Inlet; Capt. Beechey saw the Polar Sea, and that is all; and Capt. Buchan was not so fortunate as Capt. Beechey;—while a short survey of the polar land journeys affords a standard of comparison and developes the true position. The journey of Hearne proved the existence of a Polar Sea, and demonstrated that it could be reached overland by way of Canada; and the success which attended Sir John Franklin's first polar land journey proved that the opinion which had been formed was in every way correct. The distance between the Coppermine River and Point Turnagain was thus made known to us. A second polar land journey added to our knowledge of the coast line the distance between the Mackenzie and the Coppermine Rivers, and as far westward of the Mackenzie as Foggy Island; which far surpassed in extent the prosperous voyage of Sir Edward Parry in 1819 and 1820. A third polar land journey eclipsed all, and left to be surveyed but a small portion of the North American boundary of the Polar Sea. The fruits of the ten Polar Sea Expeditions will not balance with those of one of the Polar Land Journeys; and the harvest of the first and the least successful of these interesting missions is greater than that which remains to be gathered. Even the little that has been done by the Polar Sea Expeditions is of doubtful character.—Banks Land, the North Georgian Group of islands and the boundaries of Barrow Strait are still problems; in fact, so many lesser puzzles as additions to the great geographical puzzle of three centuries. It is not so with the labours of the commanders of the Polar Land Journeys. The footing which they made is permanent; while Croker Mountains have dissolved, and islands threaten to be continents, and continents islands—the natural consequence of discovery in ships.

It is altogether illogical to suppose that a party isolated from the known world, as Sir John Franklin is at this moment, can reach civilization with as great facility as a party from the known world can reach him. Sir John Franklin, if he can keep his party together, will rest where he is, and daily look for assistance from his home. This was a subject which the promoters of the Expedition in search of Sir John Ross had to prove in 1833; and nothing has since occurred to create a difference of opinion.

There are manifestly two modes of attempting to afford Sir John Franklin relief—to convey provision to him and to convey him to the provision; but I shall have no difficulty in proving to your Lordship that there is but one mode practicable,—that of conveying him to the provision. The conveyance of provision to Sir John Ross was a failure—and in that case it was only contemplated to relieve a small party of twenty-three men—for this evident reason, that the country is too poor to support a large party—and a large party it is necessary to have, when every kind of provision has to be carried on men's backs over the innumerable obstructions which are to be met with in an overland journey.

The party in search of Sir John Ross saved themselves from starvation by consuming the food intended for that gallant officer long before they had reached the half-way house to him. These are not mere assertions to suit the moment: for the facts which support these opinions were recorded in 1836, in 'King's Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Arctic Ocean,' in these words: "Although overland expeditions towards the northern coast of North America may be regarded as less expensive and less dangerous than an arctic voyage, and more likely to obtain accessions to science and commerce, they may greatly vary amongst themselves in all these respects, according to the mode in which they may be undertaken. They may, however, be all comprised in two classes. To the first class belong small companies, travelling with the least possible incumbrance, and strictly adopting the mode of proceeding and the means of subsistence in use amongst the natives of the country and the traders who visit them. Individuals uniting physical ability, both for doing and suffering, necessary to meet the dangers and fatigues of this mode of travelling, with talents and acquirements necessary to render their journey availing for the purposes of science, have already effected much at a very trifling outlay. Hearne and Mackenzie prove the truth of this assertion. The second class consists of those expeditions which possess a more organized and systematic form; being composed of a company of men and officers accustomed to military or naval service,—seldom or never amounting to a smaller number than three officers and twenty men; and consequently requiring a considerable amount of baggage. For the conveyance of these men and their stores the small canoes of the country, which are readily made, repaired and transported, are quite inadequate. Boats of larger dimensions are therefore had recourse to; which are easily damaged, are with difficulty repaired, and are too cumbrous to be conveyed across the portages when the distance is great or the ground uneven. These evils are not theoretical; they have been proved by fearful experience, and have been the cause of immense difficulty or failure:—for though they form but a small military troop, they are too large to travel with advantage through a country in which the means of subsistence are very scanty and still more precarious. The difficulties which they have to encounter are infinitely increased when the individuals comprising the company are not practically acquainted with the mode of travelling through the district to be crossed, and consequently cannot be separated from each other without the greatest danger of fatally losing their way: on which account they cannot seek game and other sources of subsistence. From want of experience, they are unable either to bear the burdens or travel the distance which a Canadian or an Indian would disregard. Time, the most important element in northern expeditions, is inevitably lost; and neither the energy nor the genius of the commanding officer can retrieve the error when the season is advanced upon them."*

The evidence which I have brought forward I most conscientiously believe to be conclusive, that the means to be adopted for relieving Sir John Franklin will be for the Government to despatch one or more vessels with provision to the western land of North Somerset by Barrow Strait in the summer of 1848, and to call upon the Hudson's Bay Company to use their best exertions to fill their northern depôts with pemican, dried meat and fish by the same date. Information of such provision having been made should be conveyed, in the course of the summer of 1848, by a small party provided with Indian guides—in case it should be desirable to convey the lost party to the Hudson's Bay depôts on the Mackenzie or the Great Slave Lake, instead of to the southern boundary of Barrow Strait in search of the provision vessels. Such a party, my Lord, I will undertake to lead, in company with any officer whom the Government may appoint, provided he be of my own age and in possession of the same amount of physical capability. I am induced to volunteer my services because I believe that I am the only person in whom the requisites for such a journey are to be found. Sir John Richardson counts twice the number of years that I do; and he is not acquainted with either the country or the American Indians to the extent that I am:—and I should disgrace myself as an Englishman if I did not step forward to save a veteran in the service like him from the necessity of fulfilling his promise to the Admiralty of going in search of Sir John Franklin in March next in case of our receiving no tidings of him in the autumn of this year. The Government surely cannot consent that Sir John Richardson, arrived at an age much better suited to receive honour than to endure hardship, should expose himself to fresh dangers and privations, when there are the young and the competent anxious to take their turn.

If Sir John Franklin is to be relieved, it must be in the summer of 1848. He must be spared the winter of that year:—and the Government will incur a heavy responsibility if every effort that experience can suggest is not made to save him from such an ordeal—which can scarcely be contemplated without the most painful feelings. Sir John Franklin's expedition should never have set sail, in the face of the facts that I laid before the late Government: and the least that the present Government can do is to lessen the evils that their predecessors have allowed the veteran to heap upon himself. And it will certainly not be taking the best means to send one veteran in search of another.

In conclusion, my Lord, I would call your attention to the opinions of the medical officers of the second expedition of Sir Edward Parry in answer to the query of that gallant commander—"As to the probable effect that a third winter passed in the Arctic regions would produce on the health of the officers, seamen, and marines under his charge." Mr. Edwards and Mr. Skeoch report, "that during the last winter and subsequently, the aspect of the crew of the Fury in general, together with the increased number and character of the complaints, strongly indicated that the peculiarity of the climate and service was slowly affecting a serious decay of their constitutional powers;"† and Captain Lyon remarks, that "He has for some time been of opinion that the Fury's passing a third winter in the country would be extremely hazardous. He is induced thus to express himself from the great change he has observed in the constitution of the officers and men of the Hecla, and by the appearance of some very severe cases of scurvy since the summer has commenced. Long continuance on one particular diet, almost total deprivation of fresh animal and vegetable food for above two years, and the necessary and close confinement for several months of each severe winter, are undoubtedly the causes of the general alteration of constitution which has for some time past been so evident. He therefore conceives

* 'Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Arctic Ocean by Richard King,' pp. 294-298

† Parry's Second Voyage, p. 471.

that a continued exposure to the same deprivations and confinement, and the painful monotony of a third winter to men whose health is precarious, would in all probability be attended with very serious consequences."†—Notwithstanding these opinions so strongly expressed, Sir John Franklin must pass a third winter in the polar regions if there are no tidings of him in the autumn; but I trust, my Lord, that you will not allow him to contend with a fourth, without giving me an opportunity of rendering him the only succour which has the probability of success,—that of being the messenger of the information where provisions are stored for him.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, &c.

RICHARD KING.

† Parry's Second Voyage, p. 473.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Blois.

ONE is continually struck with some proof that the French are an untravelled people. Among them is the strange illusion, so long perpetuated, that the scenery of the Loire is remarkable for beauty. If remarkable at all, it is rather for the contrary. Among the considerable rivers of Europe which it has been my fortune to see it is certainly the least beautiful. Not to mention the Rhine and the Danube, what is there along its course to compare with the Elbe between Dresden and Prague—the romantic forest-crowned hills that shut in the charming Maine—the Mosel—or even (as they appeared to me) the Saone and Rhone? As I saw *their* shores, however, from the river, and those of the Loire from the railroad, the comparison is unfair. Still, one cannot be mistaken as to the main features of the country;—if, indeed, one can aptly speak of features in anything so featureless as a flat.

The edition of Mr. Murray's 'Handbook' that I have with me is of 1844. Probably a later one records the changes that have since taken place on this road. The most important are those caused by the prolongation of the railroad to Tours, and by the consequent extinction of the steamboats from Orleans to that city. The readiness with which the French part with this their only means of getting on the water (for pleasure or sailing boats can hardly be said to exist) is worthy of remark as a national trait. When one sees this, and remembers the endless difficulties and negotiations to be gone through on the sea-board before the means or the permission can be obtained to float away an hour on the glorious element, one fancies one discovers traces of a feline antipathy to the water. Of all English sights none struck me as so thoroughly English on our shores as a boat which went out to sea daily—pretty nearly in all weathers—completely freighted with a family who had attempted that way of taking the air. The mother and the baby, the nursemaids and little children, embarked in the tossing boat in the same matter-of-course manner as a *Parisienne* steps into her carriage for the drive to the Bois de Boulogne. These indications of national taste and feeling are no doubt beneath the attention of orators and statesmen;—but they are interesting to an idle traveller.

I particularly regretted the steamer on the approach to Blois: which must present itself in very different aspects approached from the winding stream below, or from the straight railroad above the castle and church which form its prominent features. It is true that the uncertainty of the navigation on the Loire affords a plausible motive for discontinuing it altogether. To-day, for example, the river is so swollen as to render the bridge wholly impassable; the current, rapid, turbulent and muddy, is ploughed up by wind and rain, and looks as if hurrying to execute some malignant and ruthless purpose. Altogether, I never saw a more wicked-looking water. That mysterious language of torrents,—that expression of a human will which one seems to read in the motion of flowing water,—is, I think, nowhere so magically given as in the charming story of Undine.

The devastations of last October make one wonder how people can go to bed in peace on its banks—yet new buildings are rising in all directions within reach of similar destruction. Everybody seems to admit that inundations are become more frequent and more destructive in France than ever;—yet I heard no rumour of any measures for preventing or for palliating so terrible an evil. An inquiry into the causes of the phenomenon has been going on for years, but as yet appears to have led to no result except the ascertainment of the fact. We in England, who have only tranquil, useful, governable waters, or who have reduced them to subjection, have really no idea of rivers like the Loire; which are, except in their most amiable moods, too full or too empty, too feeble or too violent—the type of unreclaimed, undisciplined man.

The restoration of the Castle at Blois is proceeding rapidly and well. At present, it is confined to the north side of the quadrangle—that built by Francis I. The deplorable thing is, that a considerable piece at the end furthest from the great entrance is gone—pulled down by Gaston of Orleans, and replaced by a bit in the cold, heavy, tasteless, styleless style of his age, in which the south side is built. It looks as if he actually contemplated destroying the whole magnificent work of Francis. The end pulled down contained part of the rooms of Henry II., adjoining those of Catherine of Medicis. A link in the historic chain of the several scenes of the great tragedy acted in these apartments is thus wanting;—viz. the back staircase by which the royal assassin went to the upper room, where he distributed the daggers to his hired accomplices and awaited the issue of his perfidy. The magnificent staircase is now completely restored; and the salamanders which Mr. Murray says "have been all effaced" again decorate it in profusion, together with the ermine of Claude and various other devices and ciphers of these and the succeeding sovereigns. Beautiful as this staircase is, the less showy one in the right-hand corner on entering the quadrangle is, I think, still more so. This belongs to the east side, built of brick, and said to be of the time of Louis XII. Nothing can be conceived more perfect than the proportions, more graceful than the curve, of this staircase. The roof is like a half unfolded fan; and round the top of the central pillar supporting it winds, or climbs, the sole ornament—a beautiful border, the effect of which is singularly elegant and harmonious. Far less ornate than the staircase of Francis I., this exceeds it in unity, grace and symmetry. It leads to the *Salle des Etats* (which is still used as the *Salle d'escrime et de gymnastique* for the soldiers) and to other rooms dedicated to barrack uses. The only portion as yet rescued from this desecration is the north side. Why I talk of desecration, by the by, I do not know; for the poor fellows whom I saw undergoing the unutterable *ennui* of drill are certainly better, and very likely braver, men than either the winners or the losers in the bloody scenes of which this castle was the theatre. But history, while it reveals the atrocity of those times, throws a veil over their vulgarity; and it is difficult to keep present to one's mind that almost any one of these awkward peasant lads is a better gentleman than the treacherous and cowardly king who spurned the body of his murdered enemy and guest. A vandalism at least equal to that of Gaston of Orleans has been committed in our day. The half of the chapel, a beautiful little building, has been pulled down,—it is difficult to see for what end. The other half serves as a workshop for the men employed on the building. The restored rooms, splendid in colour and gilding, are small and low; like those of almost all residences—even royal ones—of that date. The Middle Ages, like Antiquity, reserved vast proportions for their public buildings; and the taste for gigantic habitations is of recent date. It was carried to its height by Louis XIV.; and is very characteristic of that boundless inflation of vanity, pride, and selfishness which no man perhaps ever felt to such a degree or acted upon with such consistency.

Before I quit Blois, I must beg Mr. Murray to retract his assertion that "the *crême de St. Gervais* resembles Devonshire cream." It will bear no comparison with that delicious preparation. It is more like the common cream with a *whipped* head which your milkwoman will bring you of her own accord, at Dresden, if she knows you are going to give a *Thé*. Visitors to Carlsbad must be familiar with it under the provincial, or perhaps Czechisch, name of *Schmetten*.

"The Castle of Amboise," says an accomplished French correspondent, "is the jewel of the Loire,—the finest fabric of the garden of France. It came into possession of the crown under Louis XI. Here Charles VIII. began and ended his knight-errant existence and reign; and here, under the feeble James II. and the soft eyes of the Scottish Mary, was perpetrated the first massacre of the Protestant nobility. Very little remains of the original fabric. The principal wing was constructed under Henry II. The exquisite little chapel in the garden is older,—and belongs probably to the time of Louis XII. The view from the terrace is the *ne plus ultra* of the scenery of the Loire." The chapel is indeed exquisite. It is one of those architectural gems which I cannot at the present moment recollect to have seen out of France. The chapel in the Hôtel de Cluny, this Chapel of St. Hubert at Amboise, and the Sainte Chapelle in the Palace of St. Louis at Paris—the crown and consummation of all—are, I think, not to be matched for elaborate elegance. The bas-relief over the door representing the conversion of the hunter-saint is of singular beauty. I was particularly struck with the group of dogs. The hindermost are running open-mouthed at the marvellous stag; while the nearest, struck with the miraculous appearance, crouches at his feet. The ornaments of the porch are all sylvan:—knotted stems of trees, bunches of oak-leaves and acorns, with fieldmice and insects, beautifully carved in stone. The character of the inside is that of consummate elegance. There is a kind of border, in carved stone, round the whole building, which hangs like the rich lace of an altar-cloth. The work of restoration is ably done: and when the painted windows are executed, this beautiful little structure may take its place next after the gorgeous wonder of the Palais de Justice. And in situation, how far superior! Perched on the jutting corner of the rock overlooking the Valley of the Loire, and by the side of a most beautiful and appropriate garden, it is the very seat of cheerful devotion. The little spire—which, if isolated, would be too small and taper—is well accompanied by the majestic cypresses scattered with admirable taste about the garden and lawn. The old gardener who planted these, thirty-six years ago (as his son told me), had an inspiration of the happiest kind. If the space between the château and the chapel were laid out in any other way, there would be an inharmonious break,—and the spire would look like a large extinguisher. As it is, the tall and tapering cypresses are like nymphs attendant on their queen. Charming and singular garden, on the crest of this breezy hill, adorned with two such structures, and commanding so picturesque an old town and so fine a stretch of country!—Not that I have anything to unsay about the general character of the Loire.

At Amboise the aspect of the river was still more furious and sinister; and the traces of the late inundation, combined with the increasing height of the water, did not dispose one in its favour. The whole conversation during dinner at the little inn turned, as was natural enough, on the incidents of the great flood in October. Among them, a man who had been recounting his own losses told the following:—A miller hastily putting his wife and, as he thought, all his children into his cart, set out for a place of safety; when, on looking round, he missed his youngest child, a little boy of five years old. "*J'ai laissé mon enfant,*" he exclaimed; and turned round—when he was met by the cry of "*Sauvez-vous!*" and in a moment a torrent of three feet of water came bodily upon him. He turned again, put his horse to a gallop, and drove on, pursued by the torrent for above five hundred feet. At last he escaped. Having deposited his wife and children, he unharnessed his horse, mounted it, and went to seek his child; but his horse, though a very powerful one, was unable to struggle against the deep and rapid waters. The despairing father had no alternative but to return to his family and endure his anguish for his little one as he might. When it became possible to resume the communication, it was found that "le petit gamin" had had the presence of mind to go to some place where he was in safety.

After crossing the two bridges at Amboise, and still more the dam on which the railroad runs between that town and Tours, I felt as if I had escaped from the clutches of a savage monster. Meanwhile, as I have said, nothing seems likely to be done or attempted towards preventing a repetition of these fearful disasters or mitigating

their violence. When I saw the fortifications of Paris again, and thought of the money and labour expended there, my mind involuntarily flew back to the ravaged fields and ruined houses I had left behind. Surely the whole energy and intelligence of the country ought to be promptly brought to bear upon such an evil as this! It may be incurable: but when one thinks what the Americans have done towards taming their mighty floods, one is incredulous. Yesterday (15th) the railroad lay for a considerable way through a wide plain, covered with three and a half feet of water:—the river had risen fifteen feet and a very little more would cause fresh disasters.

Tours is more handsome than interesting. The cathedral is hardly worth notice in a country so rich in magnificent churches as France. The most remarkable monument in the town is the house of Anne of Brittany. Specimens of domestic architecture of that date are so rare (and daily becoming rarer) that this ought to be preserved with the greatest care. It is occupied by a carpenter; who showed us the interior court. He said the proprietor was an old lady, "qui n'y tenoit pas du tout." It is to be hoped the government or the department will *y tenir*—and preserve it from destruction. The escutcheon over one of the doors—which, as the carpenter assured us, contained the arms of the Duchess Anne—was pulled down, in the sight of his father, during the Revolution. The vulgar tradition that this was the house of Tristan l'Hermite sprang, it seems, from the rope sculptured in bas-relief on the exterior. But setting aside the improbability that a provost-marshal of the degree of Tristan would hang out such a sign of his trade, it must be remarked that the rope or cable has at each end a large tassel—neither a usual nor a convenient appendage to a halter. If I recollect rightly, one of the devices adopted in that deviceful age by the Duchess was a bundle of arrows fastened together by a rope. At all events, the tomb of her two children in the cathedral is surrounded with precisely the same cable ornament as that which decorates the house; and it is a signal proof *how* people observe, that this story of Tristan and his halter should be adhered to in the face of a coincidence obvious to the first glance—and, one would think, suggestive enough. The house is extremely small and mean in its proportions for so august a personage:—but this, as I have said, applies to nearly all the mere *dwellings* of that age.

Plessis les Tours is the most disappointing thing in the world to those who have been left to their own imagination of the residence of the most gloomy and suspicious of monarchs. To be sure, very little is left; but that little belongs rather to a good old Tudor mansion than to the frowning mass of towers and dungeons one dreams of. It lies in a warm sunny plain; and the difference of temperature was so remarkable, not only to our feelings but in the aspect of the vegetation, that we agreed that the sickly and melancholy Louis probably chose the place for its genial climate. His singular figure is, after all, the predominant one along this whole Valois country. He belongs to a class of monarchs the least numerous of any, except that infinitely small one of the truly good and great—kings intensely occupied with their business *as rulers of a people*, and pursuing it through good and evil. In later and humaner times, Frederic the Great was the most complete type of this class. It must, however, be admitted, that the sentiment of the business and duties of a governor was an instinct or inheritance in the house of Brandenburg, from the great Elector downwards. This does not in the least mean that such monarchs conceived, or affected to conceive, that they *derived* their power from the people; but that they were bound to administer it for the advantage of the people, at every sacrifice of pleasure, popularity, or personal interest to themselves or others. Louis XI. had no conscience save on this point (for one can hardly honour his superstitious terrors with that name); but however ruthless a man, he was, as towards the mass, a conscientious ruler.

I cannot take leave of Tours without a slight caution to the unwary,—of whom I confess myself to have been one. Tours is, as you all know, the ancient capital of dried plums. Accordingly, I asked for some; and was referred, somewhat to my surprise, to the money-changer:—and there I did, in fact, find, in odd combination with sovereigns and bank notes, baskets neatly packed with tempting plums. Of these baskets I bought one. As long as we did not penetrate below the second stratum, all looked fair; but on removing one of the third, the conviction was forced upon us that "M. le Changeur" made it his business to change not only coins but plums. We arrived at a totally different, and as it seemed anterior, formation,—which, I lament to say, lasted to the bottom. As the ingenious composer of these baskets assured me with great (and very natural) satisfaction that he sold his plums "*à tous les étrangers*," I shall not be sorry if these lines should have the effect of lessening the number of his triumphs.

Tours is still inhabited by many English—Blois, on the contrary, deserted by them, to the great regret of the inhabitants. The maid at the inn at Blois (Hôtel de l'Europe—clean, civil, reasonable,) seemed much surprised that I did not know "*le Commodore*," who had lived there some years; and seemed to think me very stupid when I begged for an additional name. She said that "*Tout le monde l'appelloit le Commodore—que c'étoit là son nom;*" and added that he was "*un très brave homme*"—which I was quite ready to believe of all commodores, but not at all sorry to hear predicated of this.

Orleans Cathedral is simply hideous—whatever you may hear to the contrary. Let us leave it; and go to the Musée—the ancient Hôtel de Ville—which has a beautiful façade. If you know of anybody wanting a design for the front of a house, especially a club-house, here is one to his hand—handsome, and not overlaid with ornament—fitted for these climates—not too large nor too small—and in most harmonious proportion. There are curious and interesting scraps of antiquity in the collection:—above all, the heart of Henry the Second of England, brought from Fontevrault. The heart is in a leaden case,—but visible through the opening. Something like a dry fungus is all that remains of that royal heart of England. It is much to be regretted that some earnest steps are not taken for obtaining from the French monarch and government the monuments of Henry the Second and Richard Cœur de Lion. I can hardly believe that such a request would be refused by a people who are so sensible to the pleasure of doing generous things as the French.

The house called *la maison de Jeanne d'Arc* is become a show place; and a small cell-like room, on the ground floor in the court, is pointed out as the one from which she went out and to which she returned on the day of her victory over the English. The show-woman told me that it was "*les étrangers*" who discovered all this. Reading that she had lodged in a house called *de l'Annonciade*, they had inquired for one of that name; and had at length found in the city archives satisfactory evidence as to the house, the room, and the name of the noble girl's host. It may be—and there are portions of interior wall which may be of any age; but all the exterior of the building is unquestionably centuries later than the heroine of Orleans.

The façade and court of the house *dite d'Agnès Sorel*, in the same street, are elegant specimens of the style called *Renaissance*.

In the road between Paris and Orleans the same phenomenon is remarkable as in that between Paris and Amiens. At the half-way,—viz. at Etampes on the one, and Creil on the other—the country changes from very ugly to very pretty; in both cases the half next to Paris having the latter character. The valleys of the Seine and of the Oise are charming; and it is no small advantage to the great city to be surrounded by beauty of such easy access.

The railroad is well managed and comfortable, rather than rapid—a recommendation to one who travels to see. I observe now that the sole idea present to the minds of people in general is the *time* occupied in the transmission of the bodies of travellers from one spot to another. Every question I asked on the road of our travelling companions received some such answer as the following—"*Vous y serez dans une heure*," "*Il n'y a que ½ d'heure à ——*," &c. &c. The nature and incidents of the intervening space *ne comptent plus*. It must be admitted that railroads and *commis voyageurs* are made for each other!

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

We have long been blest with governments by far too aristocratic to be moved by influences so vulgar in their disrespect of persons yet so merely spiritual in their nature as the literary. At the Treasury, Literature has generally needed some other advocate than herself—at least, the exceptions have been so rare, in the case of some minister more enlightened or more spiritually-minded than his fellows, as to serve merely as a warning for the enforcement of the rule. It has been a distinction of the Whigs quite as marked as many of their political ones, that they have been always very eclectic in their recognition of the children of genius. They are a self-possessed people, who are rarely so dazzled by the inherent greatness of genius that they cannot see the quarterings on its human coat. Their encouragements of literature have been chiefly sentimental—made for occasions more personal than the mere endowment of its veteran professors. There are generally an instance or two on hand to prove more particularly their steadiness in this matter:—but we have been led to pay them this immediate tribute by a move which, we understand, is making within the literary body to do what it does not speak a language courtly enough to compel from without. A number of those who acknowledge the debt due to literature, and think that governments might now and then help them to pay it in such positive coin as circulates with the butcher and baker, have long been vainly knocking at the Treasury door for some provision for the declining years of Leigh Hunt: and as these are fast running out, while no disposition to open appears—for the name is unknown to the Treasury-porter—it has been determined to see if Literature has not some means of repaying her own old and faithful servants. It has been thought that the name of Leigh Hunt will be known to the people,—who, with the exception of the Treasury-porter, are readers to a man: and accordingly, the same body of literary amateurs who have already once or twice put on the buskin for objects with which the literary heart sympathizes have, we are informed, determined "to take" the stage in his cause. Four performances are in contemplation; two to take place in London, and the others among the larger provincial populations—Manchester and Liverpool are mentioned; by which it is believed a sum sufficient will be realized—or, at least, the basis of what will soon become a sufficient fund—for the purchase of an annuity that may lighten the last days of an old campaigner in the service to which they are all vowed. The scheme is a direct infringement of the Treasury rights. If it succeed, Leigh Hunt will become a pensioner of the public in spite of government. It was our duty to point out this irregularity; though we feel no confidence that such consideration will stand at all in the way of the success of the project.

Various reports are afloat about the expected Commission on the state of the British Museum; and, among them is the following—that it is intended to throw the whole matter over till next year. We hope this is not true. We are well aware that at this period of the season there is not much hope of the Commissioners going fairly into the matter; but why should the preliminaries not be arranged? Why should those who are concerned in producing the necessary reports, documents and evidence, lie idle, as far as the objects of the Commission are concerned, for eight or nine months? If this course be adopted, the consequence will be that next year will be spent in preliminaries,—and the real inquiry will not begin till the year after next. Two or three speedy meetings of the Commissioners might prevent this.

Our columns must not omit to record the death of the Hon. William Herbert, Dean of Manchester—a gentleman, scholar, philanthropist, and naturalist—in the sixty-ninth year of his age. The path of those years, from 1795, when Mr. Herbert was little more than seventeen, has been strewed with a great variety of poetical flowers,—none of them very eminent for scent or hue, but all exhibiting the possession of a refined feeling and a cultivated taste. They include versions from the German and Portuguese, with original compositions in the Danish, Italian, and Spanish; and the 'Miscellaneous Poetry,' which was published in two volumes in 1804, was distin-

guished, says a writer in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, from similar effusions by containing the first elaborate and truly critical illustrations of the ancient Scandinavian literature that had appeared in England,—the attempts of one or two precursors in that line having been merely popular and trivial. Mr. Herbert's principal attempt in poetry, however, was the heroic poem of 'Attila, King of the Huns,' in twelve books; which, accompanied by an Historical Treatise, appeared in 1838,—and was then reviewed in the *Athenæum* [No. 535]. To the literature of Botany and Horticulture Mr. Herbert was a considerable contributor. "His greatest work," says the writer in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, "in this line, 'The Amaryllidaceæ,' accompanied with a treatise on hybrid intermixtures, was published in the year 1837. And such leisure as remained to him, in the succeeding years of connexion with a great manufacturing city, and of declining strength, was employed on the 'Iridaceæ.' In this work—which, had longer time or better health been granted to him, would have been as complete as the former—a progress has been made which may probably be thought sufficient to render its publication acceptable to the naturalists of this and other countries."

Nor must we pass unnoticed the death of Mr. Thomas Hurst, the once prosperous partner in the eminent publishing-house of Messrs. Longman & Co.,—for whose old age the misfortunes attendant upon a less fortunate subsequent connexion made the Charter House a welcome refuge. There, surrounded by the sympathy and respect of those who knew him in his better days, and by, we believe, all the comforts which his changed condition needed, the old man has now died.—A paragraph may also be given to record the death—arising from an accident in the street—at the age of eighty-two, of John Christian Hüttner, Esq.; who for forty years held the appointment of Translator to the Foreign Office. Mr. Hüttner accompanied the memorable embassy of Lord Macartney to China; and published his journal of that mission at Zurich, in 1795. He was the author of various other contributions to literature—chiefly, we believe, with the exception of his 'De Mythis Platonis,' in periodical form:—and acted, many years, as Literary Agent in this country to the late accomplished Grand Duke of Saxe Weimar.

We may mention, as amongst the share of our countrymen in the honours which are paid to science abroad, the fact of Sir R. Murchison having received from the King of Sweden the appointment of a Commander of the Order of the Polar Star, in recognition of his services to geology generally and the geology of that country in particular.—We should add that Mr. Weale, the architectural publisher, has had a gold medal sent him by the King of the Belgians,—as a mark of royal approbation for the essential service which the former has rendered to one important branch of science by bringing out various works on engineering, both civil and military.

The human *os innominatum* found some time since among fossil remains of the megatherium, mastodon, and other extinct quadrupeds, on the banks of the Mississippi, in the neighbourhood of Natchez [see *Athenæum*, Nos. 907, p. 1,247, and 998, p. 1,269,] is still, it seems, to be a bone of contention amongst geologists. Mr. Allen, a clergyman—apparently one of those who look upon this "dry bone" as a religious witness against the infidelity of modern geology—wrote to Dr. Dickeson, who had the keeping of the fossil; and has communicated to the *Times* the following extract from his answer:—

"You express a wish to know the position of the fossils of both human and extinct mammalia found in the vicinity of Natchez. To do so will afford me great pleasure. I shall commence with the fossil innominatum. That this ancient relic of our species is strictly in the fossil state is manifest from its physical characters, in which it accords in every respect of colour, density, &c., with those of the megalonyx and other associated bones. That it could not have been drifted into the position in which it was found, is manifest from several facts,—1. That the plateau of blue clay is not appreciably acted on by those causes that produce ravines in the superincumbent diluvial. 2. That the human bone was found at least two feet below three associated skeletons of the megalonyx, all which, judging from the apposition of proximity of these several parts, had been quietly deposited in this locality independently of any active current or other displacing power. And, lastly, because there was no admixture of diluvial drift with the blue clay; which latter retains its homogeneous character equally in the higher part, that furnishes the extinct quadrupeds, and its lower part, that contains the remains of man. There are fragments of the human skeleton found on the shores and islands, as well as those of extinct animals—no doubt washed out of the bluffs—and in the same fossil state. I have many such specimens in my cabinet; but with these I have not ventured at any comparative age. But the innominatum found in an undisturbed locality, 70 feet from the surface, and three miles from the river banks, has established, beyond a doubt (and indorsed by the Academy of Sciences, Agassiz, and others), the great antiquity of this bone."

If Mr. Allen be satisfied with Dr. Dickeson's reasoning, which assumes a single apocryphal fact to overturn a whole system resting on accumulated evidence, we should say, for ourselves, that there is no objection, so far as Mr. Allen is concerned. Our readers will rather, we think, doubt the fact itself, on the evidence and arguments which have been already furnished by Mr. Lyell—and for which we again refer them to our No. 998. The bone itself is not disputed. Dr. Dickeson has it—and Mr. Lyell has examined it. But it is surely easier, and somewhat more rational, to admit an *assumption* as to the place and manner of its finding which harmonizes with a long series of facts than one which contradicts them all. We scarcely think that Mr. Allen and Dr. Dickeson will be able to build up with this sole instrument a theory which places man upon the earth at a period antecedent to the formation of the valley of the Mississippi and some of the strata forming its boundary rocks—and asserts him to have survived the extinction of one group of terrestrial mammalia, and witnessed the succession of another—though of all the generations covering those long ages of time one single pelvic bone alone remains to testify!

The first annual general meeting of the Royal College of Chemistry was held on Monday last in Hanover Square—when Mr. Cabbell took the chair. The report of the Council announced the completion of the laboratories, and the success of the Institution. The number of students at present in the College was stated to 38,—making 147 from its establishment. A member of the college, it was said, had expressed his intention, as soon as the institution was free from debt, to invest the sum of 1,000*l.* as a premium for discoveries in chemistry effected therein. Two offers had also been made of donations to the amount of 100*l.* respectively, for the purpose of raising in each case 1,000*l.* as soon as other persons would come forward to complete the sums. Dr. Hoffman's report announced that the total receipts of the Institution last year, including the previous balance, amounted to 6,846*l.* 7*s.*;—out of which a present balance remained of 622*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* Some conversation took place on the subject of the 1,000*l.* which it was proposed to invest as a prize for chemical discoveries; during which Mr. Blakemore, M.P. (who was understood to be the donor) explained that the premium was to be offered in particular for the discovery of any means which should render iron, when applied to all ordinary purposes, as little liable to rust or corrode as copper.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes as follows:—"Phrenology is rather at fault regarding Dr. Chalmers. From the largeness of his head externally and the peculiarity of his mental temperament, the leading craniologists have long spoken of him as of necessity possessing a large brain; but the *post-mortem* inspection of the encephalon has disabused this idea. Thus, the weight of brain in Dupuytren was 64 oz., in Cuvier 63, in Abercrombie 63, in Chalmers 53—the average weight in persons from 50 to 60 years of age being 50 oz. 2 drachms."

The Anniversary Dinner of King's College Hospital was celebrated on Wednesday last at Stationers' Hall: when Sir Robert Peel, who presided, furnished some statistics which are worth repeating. "He begged to remind the meeting that notwithstanding the population of the metropolis had increased 70 per cent. from 1800 to 1831, and the number of houses had increased during the same period 63 per cent.—notwithstanding there was a proportionate increase of wealth and refinement, that new theatres and club-houses rivalling palaces, new squares and new streets, had been built, and that there had been an increase of everything which ministered to the amusement and rational recreation of the people—there was no corresponding increase in the hospital accommodation for the poor. One hundred years ago there were 7 hospitals in existence; and if it were permitted to a person conversant with the state of society at that period to revisit the metropolis at the present day, he would be amazed to find only three new hospitals erected since that time—namely, Charing-cross Hospital, University Hospital, and King's College Hospital, all of which had been erected within the last 18 years."—It was stated that King's College Hospital contained 120 beds; and not less than 1,276 patients had been received within the walls in the last year, while no fewer than 16,547 persons had received medical assistance outside the walls. The donations on the occasion amounted to 1,670*l.*—At the anniversary festival in commemoration of the opening of the new building at Brompton for the Hospital for Consumption—the Duke of Cambridge presiding—we were sorry to see it announced that seventy persons are now waiting for admission. The word *waiting* does not convey its full force to the mind till we remember that the waiters are consumptive patients—and are *waiting* for that remedy for which to wait too long is death! The phrase has a fearful significance before the march of Tubercle. It was stated that there are 60 beds already occupied by patients; and that the committee only await the liberality of the public to enable them to fill the entire number of 100, which the institution is now adapted to accommodate. From the commencement it was said, the subscriptions had been the means of providing for 7,000 persons.—We are glad to see that the subscriptions exceeded 2,000*l.*:—but we hope the public will not let the hospital have less than its hundred beds.

It is mentioned from Edinburgh that a general meeting of teachers from all parts of Scotland is to be held in that city on the 19th inst., for the purpose of formally instituting an educational association; which on being incorporated will grant educational degrees, and otherwise organize the scholastic body.—The town of Hamburgh is said to be occupied with the project of founding a university of its own.

In Paris, the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres has elected Herr Grimm, of Berlin, a corresponding member in the room of the late Herr Jacobs of Gotha.

The continental papers mention the death, at Jena, of Dr. Luden, one of the most celebrated historians of Germany.

Between the towns of St. Goar and Oberwesel the Prussian population were assembled at the date of the 26th ult. to witness a grand national catastrophe like that which happened not long since at Unkel. The mountain which borders the road had given for several days visible signs of lapsing; and crowds were watching by day and through the night by torch-light, under the control of officers appointed for the public safety, to be present at the coming phenomenon.

The *Voice of Jacob*—a new series of a literary periodical established for the diffusion of intelligence amongst the Hebrews our fellow-citizens—mentions that the Imperial Library of Vienna has lately received a valuable donation. Herr von Hofmansthal, one of the elders of the congregation of that city, has presented to it a complete manuscript of the works of Maimonides which is a most beautiful specimen of caligraphy. This copy is one of the only four manuscripts known to be extant. It is supposed to have been written in Italy, by Elija Halevi,—who lived in the thirteenth century; and as Maimonides died in 1204, it is probable that the manuscript was written during the life of the author.

The Annual Meeting of the Society of Arts took place on Thursday, in their Great Room in the Adelphi,—H.R.H. Prince Albert, as President of the Society, filling the chair. His Royal Highness congratulated the Society on its increasing prosperity and usefulness; and proceeded to confer the honours which had been awarded to authors of important works or inventions in arts, mechanics, and manufactures submitted to the Society during the past year—and many of them exhibited at their late Exposition. The list of medals, &c. awarded on the occasion is as follows:—

The Gold Medal to Messrs. Davidson & Symington, for their method of applying Currents of Heated Air to Seasoning Timber and to the various Manufactures—Messrs. H. Minton & Co., for the Models of a Jug and Loving Cup—Mr. Thomas Drayton, for his new process of Silvering Glass with pure Silver—and John Everett Millais, for his Original Composition in Oil. The Gold Isis Medal, to Messrs. Richardson & Co., for their specimen of Enamelled Colours on Glass—Thomas Brown Jordan, for his Machine for Carving Wood, Stone, &c. for ornamental and decorative purposes—Mr. Henry Grainger, for the best specimen of White Earthen-

ware — Messrs. H. Minton & Co., for the best specimen of White China — The same, for the best specimen of Deep Blue Colour on China—and the same, for the best specimen of Green Colour on Porcelain. The Large Silver Medal and 10*l.* 10*s.*, to Messrs. D. Pearce & C. Worrall, for their design and model of a Lamp Pillar — Mr. Charles Meigh, for a model of a Mug ornamented in relief—and Mr. F. Abate, for a means of Preventing the Emission of Noxious Vapours from Sewers. The same Medal and 5*l.* 5*s.*, to Mr. John Strudwick, for his design for a Roller Window Blind—Mr. Daniel Pearce, for his design for Printing on China—Mr. John Philip, for his design for an Earthenware Mug ornamented in relief—Mr. Bedlake, for his design for a Geometrical Stamped Drugget—and Mr. J. Austin, for an Original Composition, and specimen of Stained Glass. The same Medal and 3*l.*, to Mr. G. Inman, for his Compass Plan. The same Medal, to Mr. Horne, for his Block Printing in Distemper — Mr. Edward Keys, for his model of a Mug ornamented in relief — Capt. Carter, for his method of Suspending a Knapsack — Mr. Fuller, for the application of Vulcanized India Rubber to Railway Buffer Springs—Mr. M'Sweny, for his improved double-cone barrel Steering Wheel — Mr. C. J. Varley, for an Apparatus for facilitating the use of large Gregorian Telescopes — Mr. R. Day, jun., for his Model in Plaster of the Martyrs' Cross, Oxford—Mr. W. Ford, for his Original Model of a Figure of Nebuchadnezzar—Mr. C. S. Kelsey, for his Original Figure of a Greek Youth—Mr. E. J. Physic, for his reduced Model of a Figure of Mercury — Mr. Westerburgh, for his Portable Level—Mr. J. Walker, for his Model of a Sewer Trap—Mr. Chadley, for his plan for Preventing the Emission of Noxious Vapours from Sewers—Master H. Bursill, for a Cast from an Original Model of the Figure of Hercules—and Master Alexander Stanesby, for a Chalk Drawing of Apollo from the round. The Silver Isis Medal and Honorary Testimonial, to Mr. W. Wood, for his Tuphlograph for the use of the Blind. The same Medal and 1*l.* 1*s.*, to Mr. G. West, for his Microscopic Drawing of the Spine of the Echinus. The same Medal, to Mr. J. Bolton, for an Instrument for facilitating the Cutting of Screws — Miss Susan Durant, for an Original Bust in Plaster, being a Portrait — Mr. C. Worrall, for a Model in Plaster of a Candelabrum — Mr. C. Fox, for an Original Composition in Plaster — Mr. C. Hodgetts, for an Original Chalk Drawing of the Gladiator—Mr. J. G. George, for a Chalk Drawing of the Gladiator—Mr. Arthur O'Connor, for a Chalk Drawing of the Head of Jupiter—Miss Mary Elizabeth Dear, for a Portrait in Chalk and other Drawings—Mr. H. Souns, for a Design executed in Metal of the Head of a Greek Warrior—Miss Jane Campbell Bell, for a Chalk Drawing of a Head — Mr. F. Sands, for an Oil Painting of Birds from Nature—Mr. E. Hughes, for a Chalk Drawing of the Statue of Mars—and Mr. F. Wright, for a Clock Case carved in wood. The Silver Palette, to Master James Webb, for a Sepia Drawing of a Tree from Nature. Honorary Testimonial and 3*l.*, to Mr. Willett, for an Apparatus for facilitating the Collection of Liquid Manure. Honorary Testimonial, to Mr. Thomas Lambert, for a Flexible Diaphragm Water Valve—Mr. G. P. Bayley, for his Brush for Tubular Boilers—Mr. W. Milton, for an improved Angular Drill Stock—and Mr. T. Restell, for his Compensation Pendulum. In addition to the foregoing premiums, various sums of money, amounting together to 45 guineas, have been awarded to the authors of works of merit in Art as connected with manufactures.

We are glad to mention, that it was stated at the meeting that several of the drawings and designs were the work of pupils of the School of Design.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.
The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY is NOW OPEN.—Admission, (from Eight o'clock till Seven), 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.*
JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A. Dep. Sec.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.
The THIRTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their GALLERY, FIFTY-THREE, PALL MALL.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.*
J. FAHEY, Secretary.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, PALL MALL.
The Gallery will be OPENED on MONDAY NEXT, with a Collection of Pictures by Ancient Masters, together with some Specimens of the works of Deceased British Artists. One room is appropriated to a Selection from the valuable Gallery of the Marquis of Bute.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.*
WILLIAM BARNARD, Keeper.

ST. MARK'S, VENICE.
DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.—Just Opened, with a new and highly interesting Exhibition, representing the INTERIOR OF ST. MARK'S, at VENICE, justly considered one of the most magnificent temples in the Christian world; and a VIEW of TIVOLI, near ROME, with the Cascades, &c. The picture of St. Mark's is painted by M. Diosse (pupil of M. Daguerre), from drawings made on the spot expressly for the Diorama by the late M. Renoux. The View of Tivoli is painted by M. Bouton. Both pictures exhibit various novel and striking effects of light and shade. Open from Ten till Six.—Admittance, Saloon, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.*

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH COMPANY has just deposited a complete series of Apparatus, illustrating the Principles of the ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH as now worked on the leading Lines of Railway. Also, superb Specimens of their ELECTRIC CLOCKS, ALARUM, &c. Among the various works of interest explained is a Working Model of CLAASEN'S PATENT IMPROVED RAILWAY. Dr. Bachhoffner's Lectures on Natural Philosophy. Chemical Lectures by J. H. Pepper, Esq., on the Evenings of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The beautiful Optical Effects, Diving Experiments, &c. &c.—Admission, 1*s.*; Schools, Half-price.

SOCIETIES

ASTRONOMICAL.—*May* 14.—Sir J. F. W. Herschel, President, in the chair.—A. Scratchley, Esq. was elected a Fellow.

New Comet.—An extract was read of a letter from Prof. Colla to Mr. Hind, giving an account of his discovery of the new comet:—"On the 7th of this month, at nine in the evening, I discovered a very faint telescopic comet in Leo Minor, between two stars of Harding's 'Celestial Atlas,' marked 21 and 30, in about 151° right ascension and 36½° north declination. This comet presents the appearance of a small nebulosity, almost circular, and without tail, but with some indication of a bright point visible at intervals in the central part of the nebulosity. The motion in R. A. is very slow (it appeared to me to be retrograde), and that in declination is increasing. On the evening of the 8th, and again last night, I saw the comet, which appeared to me a little brighter; it continues its course towards the north."

Extract of a letter from Prof. Schumacher:—"I have received to-day a very interesting letter from M. Le Verrier. The star observed by Lalande on May 10, 1795, is undoubtedly the planet (Neptune). On consulting the original MSS. it appears that he observed the planet on May 10, *and also on May* 8; but in printing the *Histoire Céleste*, these two observations, supposed to be of the same fixed star, were found discordant. Hence the observation of May 8 *was not printed at all*, and to that of May 10 were affixed the two points, signifying doubt, *which are not* in the MSS."

'Observations of Neptune since its reappearance.'

Extract of a letter from Mr. Adams, with new elements of Neptune.

'Elements of the Orbit of Neptune.'—On the communication of Mr. Adams's paper, the Astronomer Royal gave orally a continuation of the history of Neptune, embracing the principal points that have been ascertained since his communication of November 14, 1846. The planet having been actually discovered in the heavens by means of certain predicted elements, the fair presumption was that those elements were very approximately correct. Adopting these elements, therefore, Mr. Hind examined Lalande's and other observations, with the hope of finding some former observation of the planet as a star now missing; but satisfied himself that there was none. In the mean time, the continuation of the observations of the planet in the last months of 1846, and the comparison of them with Prof. Challis's early observations of August, led to some unexpected conclusions. It was found that, though one *place* of the planet might be very well represented by M. Le Verrier's or Mr. Adams's elements, yet the apparent *movement* of the planet could not be represented within several minutes. Elements were then investigated from the observations themselves (without any reference to the preceding deductions from the perturbations of Uranus), by Mr. Adams in England (see *Monthly Notices*, for March, p. 244), and by Prof. Pierce and Mr. Sears C. Walker, in America. Attention is particularly due to the former of these investigations; in which are exhibited, not only the results for the different elements, but also for the probable error of each. The most important conclusion was, that the planet certainly moved in a much smaller orbit, and probably in an orbit of much smaller eccentricity, than that indicated by the calculations of perturbation. With elements thus roughly corrected, the orbit was again traced back through the ancient observations; and it was found by Dr. Petersen, of Altona, and Mr. Sears C. Walker, that a star observed by Lalande on May 10, 1795, and now missing from the heavens, was very probably the planet. The observation, however, was marked doubtful in Lalande's printed volume: and to this circumstance is, probably, due a most remarkable discovery. The manuscripts of Lalande's observations were some years ago transferred by his representatives to the Observatory of Paris. To examine into the presumption of doubt in the observation, the astronomers of the Observatory of Paris referred to the originals; and there they found that the observation of May 10, 1795, was entered without any expression of doubt at the time; that an observation of May 8, 1795, was omitted in the printed volume; that it was omitted solely because it could not be reconciled with the observation of May 10; and that, upon reducing both properly, they exhibit most distinctly the retrograde motion of a planet nearly parallel to the plane of the ecliptic, the right ascension and the polar distance having both changed in the proper proportion. It seems now inconceivable to us that an astronomer, having his attention strongly called to the difference between the two days' results, should rather assume that there were in the observations two independent errors (one of right ascension and one of polar distance) than that the body observed was really a planet. With the place of the planet at an epoch so distant, its elements are ascertained with great accuracy.—It is remarkable that the missing star to which allusion has been made is actually entered as an observed star in the Berlin Star-Map; and this circumstance prevented Mr. Adams from tracing the new orbit of the planet so soon as he would otherwise have done. This insertion of an unobserved star can be accounted for only on the supposition that the star had been taken by the observer in his working-catalogue as a zero-star, and had then been inserted as a matter of course. The mean distance of Neptune from the sun now appears, instead of 38, to be something near 30; and its periodic time, instead of 220 years, to be nearly 166. It is certainly a most curious thing (in which much is owing to chance) that elements, now known to be extremely erroneous, should have accounted for the perturbations of Uranus through 150 years with such accuracy; and should also have given the planet's place, *for the particular year in which the attention of astronomers was first strongly directed to it*, with such precision. It remains to be seen whether the new elements of Neptune will, with any possible mass, explain the perturbations of Uranus. In any case, Bode's law, on the assumption of which the original investigations of M. Le Verrier and Mr. Adams entirely depended, fails completely."

'Observations of Astræa.'

'Ephemeris of Astræa, for Greenwich Mean Midnight.'

'Observations of Hind's Second Comet.'

'Elements of Hind's Second Comet.'

'On Wartmann's Supposed Planet.'

'Calcul détaillé d'une Inégalité Nouvelle à Longue Periode, qui existe dans la Longitude moyenne de la Lune.' By M. Hansen.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—*May* 24.—This was the Anniversary Meeting. The President, Lord Colchester, in the chair.—The report stated that the Society at present consists of 672 members; besides 39 foreign and 22 corresponding members. The accessions to the library during the past year consist of 344 books and pamphlets; besides maps, charts, atlases, &c. The gold medals were presented to Capt. Charles Sturt and Dr. Ludwig Leichardt, according to our previous announcement of their award [*ante*, p. 467], through the hands of proxies in their several absence. Lord Colchester, in retiring from the President's chair, announced that the election of President for the next two years had fallen unanimously on W. Hamilton, Esq.

GEOLOGICAL.—*May* 26.—Sir H. T. De la Beche in the chair.—Dr. N. Arnott was elected a Fellow.

'Notice of the Discovery of Coal on one of the Islands near the Coast of the Malay Peninsula,' by J. R. Logan, Esq., communicated by Prof. Ansted.—The coal has been found by a Penang Siamese on the southern coast of the island Junk-Ceylon (well known for its tin), near the bank of a river two or three hundred feet from its mouth. It is of a black or brownish-black colour, burns with a clear flame, and appears very bituminous. The man stated that there was a layer of it three feet thick, close under the surface; and offered to import it into Penang at 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton.

'On the Structure and probable Age of the Bagshot Sands,' by J. Prestwich, Jun., Esq.—The author described the general features of this formation in the vicinity of London; where it forms wild, thinly inhabited districts, with barren flats and ranges of heath-covered hills. It exhibits few good sections,—and fossils are very rare. These sands extend more widely than has been generally supposed,—from Esher and Claremont on the east to Strathfieldsaye on the west, and from near Farnham on the south to Wokingham on the north; and they also appear on the summit of the Hampstead and Highgate hills. The age of this formation has long been a problem in geology: but the author thinks he has collected sufficient testimony to decide the question. He divides the Bagshot sands into three divisions—each with its peculiar group of organic remains. The lowest consists of fine, light yellow sands, occasionally argillaceous, with mere traces of animal remains, and a few impressions of plants. It varies from 100 to 150 feet in thickness, and rests conformably on

the London clay. Above the sands are from 40 to 60 feet of brown liver-coloured or whitish clays and greensands, with frequent vegetable impressions in the clays and occasional beds of lignite. Incumbent on this is the upper main mass of the Bagshot sands, with fewer argillaceous layers, and composed chiefly of irregular beds of light yellow sand. It contains small ironstone concretions, and blocks of saccharine sandstone 10 or 12 feet across and 3 to 4 feet thick —which are sought for by dipping through the gravel with iron rods. The thickness of this division is 250 to 300 feet. In the lower division the author finds no fossils; but from the second he has procured several; and of ten determinable and described species of shells all occur also at Bracklesham, only one or at most two in the London clay, and two or three in the Barton clays. The fossil fishes from this division—as the Edaphodon of Sir Philip Egerton, the teeth of sharks and other remains—also agree with those from Bracklesham. The upper division yields a few fossils, all eocene forms, but less decisive as to the particular division. From the whole evidence, Mr. Prestwich considers the Bagshot sands as the equivalents of the rich fossiliferous beds of Bracklesham, of the central vertical strata at White Cliff Bay, and of the central variegated and light coloured sands of Alum Bay—and at all events older than the freshwater series. Hence also they are correlated to the lower part of the Calcaire Grossier and the Glauconie Grossière of the French tertiaries; and occupying a low place in the eocene series form an uninterrupted sequence to the London clay, and in perfect conformity with the progressive developement of the marine strata of the Hampshire tertiaries.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*May* 18.—Sir J. Rennie, President, in the chair.—'An Account of the Sarah Sands, and other iron vessels, with direct acting auxiliary engines and screw propellers,' by J. Grantham, Esq. The object of the paper was to show that a propeller might be constructed of such dimensions, that the number of revolutions it would require to make in order to obtain a high velocity would not much exceed that of the ordinary paddle wheel; and that hence the usual marine condensing engine might be applied direct to the propeller shaft without the intervention of a secondary motion. It appeared from the statements in the paper that Woodcroft's expanding pitch screw propeller was the best form that had hitherto been employed. In a paper read to the Institution upwards of three years since, Mr. Grantham gave his views on this subject; and several vessels had been since built, the results of the trials of which were now communicated. The principal of these were the Emerald and Diamond, three-masted schooners of 300 tons and sixty-horse power—the Nautilus of the same dimensions—the Antelope of 600 tons and 100-horse power—and the Sarah Sands of 1000 tons and 180-horse power. The capabilities and performance of these vessels were described; but particular notice was taken of the last—which had performed a most successful voyage to New York during bad weather and adverse winds. The passages made by the ordinary New York liners which were out at the same time were very long, averaging forty-eight days each; and the Boston and Liverpool steamers were much longer than usual on their passage. The Sarah Sands used her steam about 17 days,—and sailed the remainder; making her voyage in twenty days and ten hours. On her arrival she had about enough fuel remaining for four days' steaming.—In the discussion which followed several engineers of eminence concurred with the views expressed. The principle of the following current of the ship, which had a material influence in increasing the efficiency of the screw, was alluded to.—An account was given of the auxiliary screw steamers that ply between London and Rotterdam; and some facts were stated relative to the power which these vessels possess of working to windward in bad weather.

June 1.—Sir J. Rennie, President, in the chair.—The paper read was, 'An Account of the Iron Barque, Josephine,' by Capt. Masters; who commanded her in the voyages she has made.

At the monthly ballot, the following gentlemen were elected: Messrs. W. Sayce, J. Phillips, J. B. Clay and Capt. J. L. A. Simmons.

ZOOLOGICAL.—*June* 8.—Dr. Gamble in the chair.—Mr. Gray continued his paper on British whales.—Mr. Gould described a new species of Apteryx, which he named *A. Owenii*;—a just tribute of respect to Prof. Owen; whose labours have so thoroughly elucidated the physiology of this form and its allies. The skin exhibited at the meeting was obtained by way of Sydney—unfortunately without any information of the circumstances of its capture. Mr. Gould has reason to conjecture that its habitat will be found in the middle island of New Zealand. It is clearly distinct from *A. Australis*—which it resembles in size; and still more from the larger one, still uncaptured, whose existence is indicated in Mr. Strange's letter read at the meeting on April 13th. In *A. Owenii* the wing is still more rudimental than in the old species. The plumage is barred instead of streaked, and more hair-like in texture. The detailed account of its habits and economy, which Mr. Gould is in expectation of speedily receiving, cannot but be looked for with the greatest interest.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON.	British Architects, 8, P.M.
—	Geographical Society, half-past 8.
TUES.	Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.
—	Linnean Society, 8.
WED.	Geological Society, half-past 8.
—	Society of Arts, 8.—General Meeting.
THUR.	Royal Society, half-past 8.
SAT.	Asiatic Society, 2.

FINE ARTS

SALE OF MR. TARRAL'S PICTURES.

SOME of the pictures from the Gallery of the late Cardinal Fesch, which were shut up so long in a palace near the Via Lungara, have at length found their way into this country: and though the instances in this collection were all small examples of their respective masters, the distribution of so many veritable specimens must be looked on as an acquisition to the national riches. The pictures most worthy of notice were the following:—'A Head of an Old Man' (9), attributed to Salvator Rosa—which, if not from his daring brush, may claim Spagnoletto as its author. The two 'Heads of Angels' (10), by Guercino, are obviously early studies—touched with great care and elaboration—before he was confident enough to deal with the large brush. Guido's 'Portrait of a Man' (19), from Cardinal Fesch's collection, is one of those rare examples of individuality by the master painted with simple tints and in a liberal style. We know but of two other instances of portraiture by him. One is in this country, in the possession of Lady Dover—the other in the Pinacothek at Bologna, of the Bishop Andrea Orsini. The present picture is, therefore, remarkable for its rarity as well as excellence. The 'Adoration of the Magi' (22), by J. Miel, painted in Rome, is a good specimen—as is 'The Camp Scene with Italian Soldiers,' by the same (25). Of the two ascribed to Sasso Ferrato, 'The Virgin and Child' (24) is a better example than 'A Head of the Virgin' (18). Slingelandt's 'Interior of a Dutch Ménage,' is an elaborated arrangement of details. The portrait of 'The Infanta of Spain,' by Velasquez (31), appears to have suffered much in surface. 'Rustic Habitation on the Banks of a River,' by C. Decker (32), has more the effect of an interior than of day-light. The chiar-oscuro is too conventional, and has much the look of light concentrated in a room. Not all the finest painting possible—and there are some excellent passages in it—could redeem the disgust inspired by Jan Steen's 'Lot and his Daughters' (33). The executive talents of the painter are here overpowered by the brutality of his mind. W. Mieris' 'Judgment of Paris' (34) is one of those insipid pieces of elaboration so highly valued by many men of rank and station, who obtain by means of such a false reputation for taste. Such matters have done more to vitiate Art in this country than years and commissions of Fine Art will repair. This picture fetched 129*l*.—A remarkable instance of the discrepancy between theory and practice is evidenced in Raphael Mengs's 'Nativity' (35). Writing critically on the taste and character of Correggio—drawing up scales of the relative merits of the various schools and masters—it might at least have been expected that this artist would reflect in his productions some of their excellencies. But his dogmas, however well they may read, are superficialities which he appears not to have had the power to carry into effect in pictorial language. Imitative as this picture is of Correggio, it is, nevertheless, but an inane and Baroccio-like looking composition,—affected in position though unlike in the *grandiose* of style which Parmegiano in *his* imitations of the same master contrived to impart. A pleasing little picture is the 'Virgin and Child,' by Murillo (37); but the child's head appears to have suffered in cleaning.

Six pictures by Albano, of Amorini, formerly in the large room of the Villa Madama, on the Monte Mario at Rome, belonging to the Medicis family, were so highly placed that their merits could not be judged of. Gaspar Poussin's two pictures were both from Cardinal Fesch's collection. Both are of Italian scenery—one entitled 'Extensive Mountain and Lake Scenery' (44)—the other simply 'Italian Scenery' (53): and both are capital examples. With Le Brun, we incline most to the last. We are not certain that the first was sold:—the second brought 127*l*. Titian's portrait of 'A Man in Black' (45) is of a similar quality to the Louvre pictures by that artist. The head and hands are in the same low tone—the dress is made to tell as a mass of dark—and the whole picture so planned in its chiar-oscuro as to give relief and harmony without obviousness of the painter's intention and with the artless general look of nature.

Berghem's 'View on a River, with Figures and Animals,' (47) is certainly one of the most desirable pictures we have ever seen from the same hand—rich and warm in colour, and detailed with a vigour and delicacy which he has never surpassed. It brought 113*l*.

Backhuysen's picture, of 'A Squall' (49) is a grand conception; in which vessels and boats are hastening towards the shore to avoid the danger of an approaching storm. Though of the blackish tendency of the painter, it is one of his most poetical works. The price was 247*l*. The 'Forest Scene' (51) by Ruysdael is, as the catalogue justly described it, a perfect gem—possessing all the excellencies of the master on a small surface, though as a subject of little interest. The painter's art has done all. It sold for 483*l*. Of all the landscapes in this collection the most interesting was that by Guercino with 'St. Jerome at his Devotions' (52)—interesting alike from its rarity and its excellence. This is one of the instances in which the painters of the Bolognese School are seen to advantage in the cultivation of this branch of Art. Jan Steen's 'Effects of Intemperance' (54) is too well known—having been in many known collections, and described by writers on Art, Waagen and Smith—to need comment here. It is freer from vulgarity than the majority of his works. It fetched 236*l*.

But the picture of all the pictures here was 'The Adoration of the Shepherds,' by Giorgione (55). This is one of the most finished works of the great Venetian painter; and in this country he is unknown in its particular manner. It is in Venice and his native city Castelfranco that are to be seen those examples of his Art which have obtained for him the reputation of rivalling as a prince of colourists Titian himself. Like the 'Bacchus and Ariadne' of the latter, everything here has engaged the artist's attention. Such drawing and expression as are displayed in the two shepherds, and in the representation of maternal love and of innocence in the Virgin and Child, justify the golden opinions which he has earned far more than later works attributed to him. Many of these are either not by his hand or painted at a time when his mind was too much distracted to pursue his art in peace. The present picture is like that in St. Liberale at Castelfranco. The merits of such a work—and the extreme difficulty of meeting with such an example of the hand—might claim for it a place in any national museum. To a school of colourists like the English it could not fail to be of incalculable advantage as showing that the study of fine form and careful finish are not incompatible with the excellencies of colour. We know not at present who is the purchaser,—but he paid 1543*l*. for his treasure.

RESTORATIONS AT ATHENS.

11, Albany Street, Regent's Park, June 8.

I know not if those of your readers interested in what is going on in the Acropolis are aware that a cast of the Caryatides taken by Lord Elgin from the Temple of the Erechtheium, and now in the

British Museum—and also casts of some of the pieces of the sculptured friezes of the Temple of Victory—were presented by the Trustees to the Archæological Society in Athens some time in 1845. These casts are made of the *Roman cement commonly used in London*.

The Athenian Archæological Society have now removed the rude building which obscured the beauties of the portico and doorway on the north side of the Erechtheium. M. Piscatori, the French Minister, has, at his own expense, replaced one of the Caryatides which had been repaired by the Society, in *Pentelic Marble;* and before I left Athens, in August last, had undertaken to place the *cement cast* amongst her sister Caryatides—zealous, it would seem, for the display of such contrast in our disfavour. It is painful to me as I write—and will, doubtless, be so to your readers—to picture the effect of the *murky monster* amidst the delicate tints and time-acquired tones of its exquisite companions,—the beauty of which no language or pencil can depict. Painful, too, must be the feeling of those of our countrymen who shall look upon this exhibition of our country's gift to the representatives of a people from whom she has ravished so many treasures of Art.

The other casts for the Temple of Victory—indignantly rejected for the purposes of restoration by the Archæological Society, to whose labour and cost the present state of this interesting monument is in a great measure due—are now laid on the floor of the temple, covered with the white mildew which the material gives out and dishonoured by the Athenian jackdaw.

I have reason to know that the expense of having the Caryatides and the pieces of the sculptured frieze of the Temple of Victory *copied in marble* will not exceed 200*l.* at Athens. It is with the hope of engaging your advocacy to remedy the discredit which threatens us that I thus address you;—and, of course, I shall be happy myself to subscribe. I am bound, at the same time, to state, that no more generous members of the Archæological Society than our own countrymen are inscribed on its list; and I trust that an appeal to the same liberal spirit will enable us to correct this mistake of the Trustees of our British Museum.

GEORGE KNOWLES.

FINE ART GOSSIP.—All the scenes of our every-day life are haunted by solemn mementos, if we were not too much occupied to see them—for ever uttering in their voiceless language morals that the world is for the most part too noisy to hear. Everywhere, however, they speak audibly at times amid the lulls of life: and then the voice is very striking—in a world, for instance, of such constant turmoil as the House of Commons. There, from time to time, amid the strife of party and contest of passion, rises up, on the conjuration of some philosophic member, the tall and lonely figure of the Nelson Column as a rebuke to the sanguineness of human intention and a striking example of the vanity of human effort. A feeling of sadness always falls upon the House when this pillar is mentioned. The debate, however animated before, sets behind it; and in the waning cheerfulness of the assembly the column flings a shadow longer and sadder than itself. No member treats this monument now as a living project. It is always spoken of as a thing to be attempted but never done. The subject is visibly mentioned only for its chastening morals. From its very youth the monument has been a wreck—beginning where all things else end. *Finis coronat opus* is an accepted proverb: and the great Finis only can be looked to for consummating the ruin which has been the principle of this pillar's very childhood. Predestined as a rebuke to the national pride, Labour fails before it—and Art will not cling to it. Monument after monument to a brother warrior has been conceived, born, and blackened in the London air—statue after statue has arisen on arch and pedestal—one, the heaviest, been inaugurated and deposed—while day after day was demonstrating the impossibility of completing the Nelson Pillar. Governments have adopted it—emperors given it a lift—in vain. There it still rises, amid the wide solitude of Trafalgar Square, like some shattered fragment in the Desert! There are many things about Trafalgar Square—if we can abstract ourselves from the tumult of life by which it is surrounded,—that recall the desert. Dried wells suggested by fountains that fling up little or no water—shivered granite—a pedestal from which the Statue is more completely gone than is the Memnon from the spot where it played upon its ancient lyre (that is, if the statue were ever there)—and the desolate and fragmentary pillar in the midst!—Last week, the House stumbled once more on the elegiac vein which belongs to the Trafalgar monument: and Lord Morpeth took the doubtful and desponding tone that suits the subject. "He was afraid the sum now wanted would not finish the monument, as it would only complete 10,000*l.* out of 12,000*l.* estimated to be necessary for that purpose. Indeed, if the original design were carried out, the expense would be 16,000*l.* or 17,000*l.*" Mr. Borthwick said, mournfully and wildly, "he would like to know what design the Government *meant* to carry out; and asked whether it would not be better to pull down the monument." But the subject makes us, as it makes all others, sad:—and we gladly escape from it into the world of living Art.

A miscellaneous lot of prints, part of the collection of the poet Gray, was sold on Wednesday last, by Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson. They were chiefly from Italian masters; and had evidently been pasted by the poet in a book. As impressions they were for the most part poor: and the chief interest lay in the fame of their former owner and in the pen-and-ink memoranda made with his small neat pen upon their margins. Had the notes been critical we should have been glad to have seen them printed; but all were biographical, with little more than dates and references to Vasari and others upon them. If the picture was in this country, the notes were in English—if in Italy, in Italian. Gray had a fine taste for Art. His noble picture in 'The Bard,'

> loose his beard, and hoary hair
> Streamed like a meteor to the troubled air,

was suggested by Raphael's 'Ezekiel':—though he acknowledged to Mason that Parmegiano's 'Moses breaking the Tables' came still nearer to what he wished to convey.

In the approaching Exhibition of pictures by the Old Masters, at the British Institution (the private view takes place to-day), a very interesting collection will be brought under public notice:—one entire room being filled with choice specimens of the Dutch school, from the collection of the Marquis of Bute.

A curious paragraph has been going the round of the Continental papers, which mentions, on the faith of a letter from Munich, the theft of a valuable picture, by the celebrated Dutch painter, Mieris, from the Pinacothek of that city. The work spoken of is of small dimensions,—a portrait of the artist himself, in the act of sacrificing to Bacchus; and was, it is said, at once the only authentic portrait of the painter existing and the only work of that master in the possession of the Bavarian institution.

A second visit to the Diorama has satisfied us that the present Exhibition there is deserving of a few words more of notice than we have as yet bestowed.—In the picture of 'St. Mark's, at Venice,' M. Diosse has shown himself a worthy pupil of M. Daguerre. In the daylight effect of the picture, the subdued and partially lighted appearance of the interior is excellently expressed. The play of light, and its influence on the various parts of the building as the sun moves round the two sides until the grey shades of evening are succeeded by the gradual lighting up of the cathedral for midnight service, make a fine illusion. The brilliant and concentrated effect of the building, illumined by the numerous lamps of the cross pendulous from its centre and throwing out in relief the multitude assembled for worship within its walls, is finely aided by the effect of music. The selection of the point of view for the 'Tivoli,' by M. Bouton, has not been the most happy one. In the endeavour to avoid a repetition of well-known views, the great points of interest, either for variety or magnificence of scenery—that architectural bijou, the Temple of the Sibyl—the picturesqueness of the rushing Teverone, in its fall dividing itself into so many channels or cascatelli—the Villa of Mæcenas—and the distant campagna—are all lost sight of. The bridge, over the fall, by which Subiaco and the frontiers of the Regno are reached by the Vico Varo road, and the monotonous-looking modern Italian dwellings, afford no adequate compensation for these. Better would it have been, at the risk of repetition, to have given some of the features which go to make up the identity of the scene, and without which it may pass for any other Italian locality. Notwithstanding this defect, however, and although there is, as we have said, something theatrical in the taste of this picture, it has much good solid painting. In the higher artistic qualities it must yield to the more splendid and more variedly-treated Venetian interior.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MISS DOLBY and MR. LINDSAY SLOPER have the honour to announce that their MORNING CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on WEDNESDAY, June the 23rd, to commence at Two o'clock precisely. Tickets, 7*s.* each, to be obtained of all the principal Musicsellers; of Miss Dolby, 61, Berners-street, Oxford-street; and of Mr. L. Sloper, 7, Southwick-place, Hyde Park-square. Reserved Seats, 10*s.* 6*d.* each, to be had only of Miss Dolby and Mr. Lindsay Sloper.

Grand Morning Performance.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—On FRIDAY NEXT, June 18, will be performed Rossini's 'STABAT MATER,' on which occasion Madame Grisi, Madame Persiani, Signora Corbari, and Mdlle. Alboni, Signor Mario, Signor Salvi, Signor Tamburini, Signor Ronconi, Signor Tagliafico, and Signor Marini, will sing.

A MISCELLANEOUS CONCERT.

In the course of the Morning, Rossini's 'La Carità' by the whole strength of the Company. Beethoven's Grand Battle Sinfonia will be performed by the Orchestra, with two additional Military Bands. Conductor, M. Costa.

Prices of Admission—Pit and First Amphitheatre, 7*s.*; Pit Stalls, 15*s.*; First Amphitheatre Stalls, 10*s.* 6*d.*; Second Amphitheatre Stalls, 5*s.*; Grand Tier Boxes, 4*l.* 4*s.*; Pit and First Tier Boxes, 3*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.*; Second Tier Boxes, 2*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Third Tier Boxes, 2*l.* 2*s.*; Fourth Tier Boxes, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*; Second Amphitheatre, 3*s.* 6*d.*; Gallery, 2*s.* 6*d.*

Tickets, Stalls, and Boxes, at Cramer, Beale & Co.'s, 201, Regent-street, and at the Box Office, Bow-street.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The novelties at *Concert the Seventh* were a *scene* by Lindpaintner, sung by Herr Pischek—and the appearance of Signor Ciardi the new flute-player. With regard to the vocal composition, we must regret that the greatest of German singers should throw away so much power, pains, and finish on a composition at once so worthless and so full of pretence. If commonplace be allowed to pass for melody—if uncouth modulation establish originality, and fragmentary patchings of phrases truth of dramatic effect, then, indeed, we may accept the production of the Stuttgart *Kapellmeister* as a *chef-d'œuvre*—but not till then. We fear that for this mistaken manner of writing, too prevalent in Germany, the Abbe Vogler's two distinguished pupils Weber and Meyerbeer are in part answerable,—as having set a seductive example in irregular composition. Besides this, Herr Pischek sang very finely in the duett from Mehul's 'Joseph' with Madame Knispel;—which, truth to say, though of French parentage, was the only purely vocal composition of the evening: the other pieces being the grand *soprano scenas* from 'Fidelio' and 'DerFreischütz'—to neither of which can the epithet be applied. Signor Ciardi's *fantasia* on airs from 'Lucia' was excellently played. We remember no professor of his instrument so pleasing in tone, so voluble in execution, so legitimate in taste. The full pieces were Haydn's *Sinfonia* in C minor, two movements of which were repeated—the overture to 'Der Freischütz,' also *encored*—the overture to 'Anacreon'—and the *Sinfonia Eroica*. The last, we can assert, was never before so well given in England; and it justified to the full our assurance of Signor Costa's progress as a conductor of German music. Had the melody of the Funeral March been given in one or two places with a little more feeling, there would have been nothing to desire. The orchestra is now very nearly as sure as that of the *Conservatoire*, and far less finical in its reading; a little more roundness in some of the phrases is still the thing wanted. The Concerts have gained in spirit this year by the judicious omission of one of the instrumental *solos:*—but have none of the pianists novelties worth producing, or little-played compositions by the good masters, which would nevertheless be welcome?

MUSICAL UNION.—At the seventh of these meetings, the young Joachim led the Quartett by Mendelssohn in D major; which had been already prepared for the *matinée* given to its composer a few weeks since. We know of no leading more admirable;—no more intense spirit nor truer passion—save Ernst's, when Ernst is in the vein. The Quartett, too, is now beginning to take its right place in the estimation of amateurs—as one of those happy combinations of enterprise and science which claim a first-rate place. Yet many inferior writers have exceeded Mendelssohn in individuality of melody. The theme, for instance,

of the *andante* of this same work is almost identical with that of a chorus in Spohr's 'Jessonda:' so, too, the subject of 'Zuleikha,' one of the most impassioned songs of any time, is, note by note, that of a calmer and more sentimental *lied* by Lindblad. These things do not impugn a great man's merits: else must Handel and Rossini and all who have written voluminously (Haydn and Beethoven, perhaps, excepted) be dragged before Art's Court of Requests; there to own their small debts, and be punished accordingly. Genius may vindicate itself in the use no less than in the invention of its *matériel*. "People talk of originality," says Goethe (as rendered by Mrs. Jameson)—"what do they mean? As soon as we are born, the surrounding world begins to operate upon us;—and so on, to the end. And, after all, what *can* we truly call our own, but *energy, power, will?* Could I point out all that I myself owe to my great forerunners and contemporaries, truly there remains but little over."

We can only return from this digression to say that the other pieces performed were Haydn's Quartett in G, Op. 66.—and the Kreutzer Duett by Beethoven, with Herr Schulhoff at the pianoforte.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—This and the next are the two great concert weeks. The one just past has been unusually crowded with entertainments; though, on every hand, we hear complaints among the artists of stagnation, absence of public support, and the like. The principal "stars" at the Concert of *Mr. and Mrs. W. Seguin* were Madame Dorus-Gras, who has a new *Romance*, 'La Bouquetière du Roi,' worth many a *bonquet*—Miss Birch—Herr Pischek—Mr. Wilson with two Scotch songs—and Mr. John Parry with a pair of his wondrous legends. M. Bezeth, too, was pleasantly heard on the violin in De Beriot's well-known *Andante* and *Rondo Russe*.

On Wednesday, three concerts were given, all more or less interesting. The first was *Miss Macirone's*. That she is a good musician her playing of Mendelssohn's first *Sonata* with *violoncello* sufficiently testified. More tone, however, is required for a public room; and she would do well to practise for power and finish at the expense of a certain *nonchalance* of style which does not of itself substantiate mastery, though it may accompany the entire control of a pair of master hands. Her execution is sufficient, and her reading mostly good. But Miss Macirone also appeals to her friends as a composer—and with claims that deserve a hearing. A MS. duett in canon, 'Love once having flown,' is at once strictly and elegantly written; and sung by two even voices (nothing could be more dissimilar than those of Mrs. Weiss and Miss Dolby) must give satisfaction to listeners of all classes. Other clever songs composed by the lady were sung with kindly care and finish by Herr Pischek. On the whole, the direction of Miss Macirone's ambition is honourable and praiseworthy; and we were therefore glad to see her concert so fully attended.—A pleasant individuality was given to *Madame Balfe's* Concert, in the evening, by the predominance of her husband's music. We had selections from 'L'Étoile de Séville,' 'The Siege of Rochelle,' 'Keolanthe,' and 'Castle Aymon,'—sung by Madame Castellan, Signori Gardoni, Coletti, and Lablache, Herr Staudigl, and M. Bouché. The last gentleman seems so curiously pointed out by nature to fill M. Levasseur's place at the *Académie* by his impressive voice—a *basso profondo*—and his striking presence, that we can imagine nothing short of wilful inaptitude keeping him long from his proper occupation, which is French, not Italian, opera. A new Ballad, written with peculiar reference to Madame Balfe's voice and well sung by her, was *encored*. Signor Jannetti declaimed Manzoni's splendid chorus—

S'ode a destra uno squillo di tromba:

hardly so good a subject for declamation as some scene or passage demanding one solitary speaker,—but most impressively delivered. We have heard little recitation so forcible, expressive, and intelligible as this gentleman's; and are helping those whom it may interest to a pleasure in directing their attention to his coming series of four Readings from the Italian Poets. Time was when Le Texier's readings from the French dramatists were *the* amusement of the choicest rank and fashion of England! Molière is naturally more popular with a nation of humourists than Dante, Petrarca, Ariosto and Tasso; but the latter ought to find a congregation among our most cultivated and refined personages.—We must not forget to mention that a MS. pianoforte *Sestett* by Mr. Osborne was performed successfully: of which we hope to have another opportunity of speaking.—*Mr. Blagrove's* Concert was the third entertainment claiming attention on Wednesday. His peculiarities and gifts as a violin-player do not call again for analysis. His *programme* was a very good one. It was to meet the Swedish fashion of the time, we presume, that Madame Dulcken performed Ries's *Fantasia* on national airs,—of its kind, a brilliant concert piece, were there no "nightingales" in the Market. Madame Knispel, too, sang—with somewhat unmitigated power of voice; and Herr Pischek gave 'Deh vieni' from 'Don Giovanni' with so much of the true serenader's warmth as to claim an *encore*—Mr. Blagrove playing the mandoline accompaniment on the violin. As we will not report on what we did not hear, let it suffice to add that this concert had the attraction of a numerous orchestra conducted by Mr. Lucas.

Mr. W. S. Bennett gave his friends a good orchestral concert on Thursday morning; but with less of novelty than some of them (ourselves included) would have liked. He played his *Fourth*—which seems to be his favourite—*Concerto*, and the first movement of Sebastian Bach's *Concerto* in D minor. The first act closed with his overture to the 'Wood-Nymphs;'—a composition of which the grace and fancy are somewhat spoiled by a certain lengthiness and monotony. Modern writers are too apt to forget that the expressive powers of the orchestra are attested by its variety; and, in their anxiety to be perpetually drawing out its full sound, to lose such effect as contrast produces.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—Tuesday's performance of 'Norma' was a fine one: strong in cast and distinguished in point of execution. Never did Madame Grisi give *her* reading of the part more emphatically, or sing more carefully. Mdlle. Corbari was entirely equal to *Adalgisa's* vocal duties; and she is making progress as an actress. Signor Salvi is the best *Pollione* seen and heard for many a season; tenors mostly appearing to agree that the character of the Roman *Lovelace* is "too low" to be sung or acted with any good effect. Signor Marini is the next best *Oroveso* to Lablache. The music went as all the music has hitherto gone at this theatre.—On Thursday evening, Madame Alboni took the part of *Rosina*, in 'Il Barbiere,' with brilliant success. The character was originally written for a *mezzo-soprano* voice.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The Thirty-sixth Report of the National Society sets before us, in a small compass, a portion of the operations of Mr. Hullah's system of vocal tuition,—now regularly incorporated with the educational courses of that establishment. The students in St. Mark's College, Chelsea, who are destined in turn to become masters, receive lessons in harmony and counterpoint, in addition to the classes for practising singing kept up by themselves among themselves under strict scientific superintendence. At Battersea and at Whitelands, Mr. Hullah proceeds to state, "arrangements similar to these have been made;" and in the Commercial School attached to Whitelands, singing classes have been conducted—by the young women exclusively—with considerable success. There is progress, too, in the Westminster schools. "But," concludes Mr. Hullah, "that an impression has been made upon the country is evident from the one fact alone that the majority of those (especially young) persons who enter training schools do so *now* with some musical preparation. Of the first class which it was my duty to teach in St. Mark's College (in 1840), not one of the nine pupils had any knowledge of music or appeared before to have ever essayed a vocal sound. Of the class who have recently entered the Normal school attached to the Royal Military Asylum, *half* the pupils have gone through courses, or portions of courses, of musical instruction. A sensible result," he further adds, "is to be found in the recent improvement of Church Music throughout England."—All this is satisfactory: and a thousand signs and tokens prove that a sound secular taste is spreading, though with a thousand flaws, drawbacks and excrescences.—We are glad to announce that the first stone of the new music room for Mr. Hullah's pupils will be laid in the course of the month.

The possibility of encouraging National Art by competition will remain till the end of time a vexed question. That Genius compels patronage, rather than that patronage compels Genius, seems to us a truth on which the aspirant will do well to rest: thus heartened up to help himself, while the World sits in council to decide how he may be best rewarded. We have good opportunities of seeing how the competition system works as regards Painting. If we look to France, we get an instructive light or two on its "relations" with Music. Within the last fortnight, there have been sundry distributions of prizes, &c. Three thousand *francs* were to be divided by the arbiters of the Commission for the Improvement of Military Music among the authors of the best compositions; but the names of two prize-holders only seem worthy of record—M. Bousquet, for a Symphony Overture (400f.); M. Molet, for a 'Review' and two 'Quick Steps' (600f.) Of the other compositions and rewards the journals take no notice.—We have accounts, too, of the execution of the prize compositions elicited by the Commission for the 'Concours des Chants Religieux et Historiques.' They were by M. Auguste Chollet, M. A. Leprêvost, M. Tariot, M. Nicon-Choron, M. Gilbert and M. Ermel. The composition of the latter is commended as being of a very high order, but unsuited to the execution of the members of the *Orphéon* for whose express use it was written. From what we can gather, the result of all the pompous machinery set in motion, then, is to bring into notice a composer hitherto unknown,—but whose proper vocation appears to be far different from that contemplated by the competition.—Designs for a Hospital are advertised for; and the first prize proves the existence of an artist capable of building a superb Palace. Let us add, however, in fairness, that the mediocrity of the enormous mass of compositions sent in may be largely ascribable to the senselessly unmusical nature of much of the text proposed to be set.—A more unambitious, but not less interesting, "session" was held the other day by M. Delsarte; who has *his* classes for part-singing, too,—and who gave a performance, by their aid, in assistance of the funds of "The Popular Hive"—a co-operative association for the working classes, encouraged, if not originated, by M. Eugène Sue.

That picturesque actor M. Beauvallet has been just producing *his* 'Robert le Bruce' at the *Théâtre Français*; in which the journals tell us, that Scott's 'Lord of the Isles' is closely followed.—A French version of Goethe's 'Egmont' has been produced, without any success, at the *Odéon*,—that arena of unsuccessful experiments, or, as M. Janin calls it, "that magic lantern, in which generally they forget to light the lamp." M. le Marquis de Belloy has given to the same theatre, a one-act 'Damon and Pythias' in verse.—We might have added to our last week's catalogue of dramatic curiosities the title of a new melodrama just produced at that oddly named storehouse of dismal things—*La Gaîte* in Paris—no less sublime than 'Les Étouffeurs de Londres, ou l'Auberge des Sept-Cadrans.' The scene of this is laid in the times of Cromwell: and the story seems to do no discredit to the well-known accuracy of French invention as applied to British history and British manners.—But the Italians are yet more magnificent in confection. A scrap of a play-bill from the Arena Goldoni, at Florence, has been sent us, announcing the pitiful story of "Lord Bramber starved to death, with his whole family, by John the Fourth, in the Tower of London"!—The actors and actresses seem never out of court in Paris. One day we read of M. Lemaitre trying one of his critics for libel—yesterday, of Mdlle. Plessy attempting to escape from the forfeiture incurred by her exchange, without leave, of Paris for St. Petersburg.

M. Adam's one-act *operetta*, 'La Bouquetière,' has been at last given at the *Académie*, with Mdlle. Nau, MM. Ponchard and Bremond. Such trifles have hardly time to fail before the public.—The National Opera is announced as about to open on the 2nd of September: with a prologue composed by MM. Halévy, Carafa and Adam; to be followed by a

three-act work by M. Maillart—and, lastly, by a revival of Berton's 'Aline.'

A contemporary tells us of a serenade given the other night to Mdlle. Jenny Lind, in her garden at Brompton, by the members of a German *Liederkranz*, or Society of Part-Singers.—We perceive that a grand piano has been despatched, by MM. Erard, to meet Liszt at Constantinople; so that his coming to England proves, as we had expected, another idle rumour.—Mr. Osborne, the graceful and individual pianist, is among our last arrivals from the Continent.—We have news from Bohemia that M. Benedict's opera, 'The Old Man of the Mountain'—known in London as 'The Crusaders'—has been recently given at Prague, with great success.—The *programme* to the seventh performance of the *Musical Union* announces that the younger of the brothers Hellmesberger has already composed six operas; adding—"One of the latter is to be produced, next winter, in Vienna, another in Gratz, and a third in Florence. One of his overtures, some time ago, gained a prize in Mannheim, awarded by Spohr and Mendelssohn."

Signor Verdi has arrived:—we presume to superintend the production of his Opera written for Mr. Lumley—possibly, too, to make some alterations in his 'Macbeth' for Covent Garden. Apropos of Opera gossip—we foretold, last August, the possibility of an Italian Opera in the Haymarket without a single Italian singer; and the prediction seems in rapid progress of accomplishment:—*vide* its three *prime donne* and two of its *bassi*. That excellent and highly finished tenor from the *Opéra Comique*, M. Roger, is now in London, with the design—not of singing English, as was foolishly reported some weeks ago—but of appearing on the Italian stage; and we are told that he may possibly carry this into effect *auspice* Mr. Lumley. A good singer to alternate duties with Signor Gardoni is wanted: the world having, in a singularly short time, come round to our estimation of Signor Fraschini's powers.—The German papers announce that M. Meyerbeer has given up all idea of coming to London this year!

MISCELLANEA

Paris Academy of Sciences.—May 31.—M. Flourens communicated the result of further experiments with the injection of ether.—M. Payen read a paper on the way in which the saccharine matter and some other elements are distributed in beet-root.—M. Boussingault read the report of a committee on a paper containing an account of the observations made by M. Wisse on the volcano of Rucu-Pichincha, in the Republic of the Equator.—A paper was received from MM. de la Provostage and Desains on the reflexion of heat from the surfaces of highly polished metals. It results from their experiments that there is great reflexion of heat from a polished surface; and also that very highly polished metals may be gilded by the galvanic process without losing their polish.—M. Nachet submitted an apparatus for giving an oblique light to the microscope.—A paper was received from M. de Haldat on magnetic attraction, and the general disposition of bodies to acquire this force.

Railway Embankments.—June 7.—The suggestion which you copied into your paper of Saturday last respecting the cultivation of the vine on the sloping banks of railway cuttings seems to overlook the liability to which the vines would be subject from fire by the burning cinders from the engines—in the same manner as grass, furze, &c.—I am, &c. A SUBSCRIBER.

Magnetic Discovery.—It is said that a physician in the south of England has discovered the principle of magnetic force which explains the deviation and dip of the needle.—*Times.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J H.—Φιλος—R. H.—C. H. L.—received.

W. E. K.—We have already said that we can carry this discussion no further in our columns.

J. F. G.—We have not the means of answering our correspondent's question.

Erratum.—In our notice of the Royal Adelaide Institute, *ante*, p. 577, col. 3, l. 14, the picture of *Dover from the South Pier* (88) was, by mistake, attributed to "F. Baker" instead of *Miss Cleaver*.

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The Premiums required by this Office on Young Lives are lower than those of most of the old established Offices.

A Bonus was declared in January, 1844, to the Policy Holders entitled to participate in the Profits at Midsummer, 1843, and the Additions then made to the Policies were *on an average of the different Ages One per Cent. per Annum on the Sum insured*, from the period when the Policy Holders became entitled to participate in the Profits of the Society.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow.

Directors.
James Stuart, Esq. *Chairman.*
Hananel de Castro, *Deputy-Chairman.*

Samuel Anderson, Esq.	Charles Graham, Esq.
Hamilton Blair Avarne, Esq.	F. C. Maitland, Esq.
E. Lennox Boyd, Esq. Resident.	William Railton, Esq.
	John Ritchie, Esq.
Charles Downes, Esq.	F. H. Thomson, Esq.

This Company, established by Act of Parliament, affords the most perfect security in a large paid-up capital, and in the great success which has attended it since its commencement, in 1834, its annual income being upwards of 84,000*l.* In 1841 the Company added a Bonus of 2*l.* per cent. per annum on the sum insured to all Policies of the Participating Class from the time they were effected. The Bonus added to Policies from March, 1834, to the 31st of December, 1840, is as follows:—

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy.
£5000	6 Years 10 Months.	£683 6 8
5000	6 Years.	600 0 0
5000	4 Years.	400 0 0
5000	2 Years.	200 0 0

The Premiums nevertheless are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years, where the Insurance is for Life. Parties wishing to secure the benefit of the next Division of Profits in 1848, should make immediate application. No entrance money or charge except the policy stamp. Every information will be afforded on application to the Resident Director, No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, London.

ENGLISH and SCOTTISH LAW LIFE ASSURANCE and LOAN ASSOCIATION, 12, Waterloo-place, London; 119, Princes-street, Edinburgh.

Established 1839. Subscribed Capital, One Million.

A BONUS of TWO PER CENT. PER ANNUM on the Sum assured, to 25th December, 1846 (*equivalent to* 28 *per cent. on the premiums paid*), has been declared and added to all Policies entitled to participate in the Profits of the Association.

THE BUSINESS OF THIS OFFICE EMBRACES:

Every Description of Risk contingent upon Life, whether Civil, Naval, or Military, at home or abroad.

A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF LOAN (in connexion with Life Assurance), on undoubted personal or other security, of adequate value.

Immediate, deferred, and contingent Annuities and Endowments.

The assured participate in TWO-THIRDS of the profits.

12, Waterloo-place. J. HILL WILLIAMS, Actuary.

ECONOMIC LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 6, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London. Established 1823. Empowered by Act of Parliament, 3 William IV.

The Right Hon. Sir T. Frankland Lewis, Bart. *Chairman.*
Henry Frederick Stephenson, Esq. *Deputy-Chairman.*

The following are among the advantages offered by this Society:—LOWER RATES of Premium than those of any other office, which entitle the Assured to participate in the profits, and *considerably lower* than those of any other Mutual Assurance Society.

No PROPRIETARY participate in the profits, the WHOLE being divisible among the Assured.

A BONUS is added, after the payment of the Fifth Annual Premium, to every Policy effected on the participating Scale, if a claim accrue thereon prior to the next division of profits.

The first Bonus, in 1834, averaged 16*l.* per cent. on the Premiums paid.

The second ditto 1839, ditto 31*l.* ditto since the 1st division.
The third ditto 1844, ditto 36*l.* ditto since the 2nd division.

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained on application to CAMPBELL JAMES DOWNER, Secretary.

PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE, 50, Regent-street, London. Established 1806.

INVESTED CAPITAL, £1,200,000.
Annual Income, £140,000. Bonuses Declared, £520,000.
Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £1,500,000.

President.
The Right Honourable EARL GREY.

Directors.

The Earl of Macclesfield.	Rev. James Sherman
The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird	Henry R. Churchill, Esq.
Sir Richard D. King, Bart.	William Judd, Esq.
Alexander Henderson, M.D.	James Sedgwick, Esq.
Capt. W. John Williams	Alfred Beaumont, Esq.
John Deering, Esq.	George Dacre, Esq.
William Henry Stone, Esq.	Richard Sherwood, Esq.

1. The Rates of Premium are those adopted by the principal Life Offices; the rate without bonus is lower than that of most other offices.

2. The Bonuses are added to the Policies, or applied to the reduction of the Premiums, or may be received in cash as soon as declared, at their then present value.

3. Loans are granted upon the Policies issued by this Office, or the Policies are purchased at their full value.

4. If a party neglect to pay for the renewal of his Policy, he may repair the omission any time within 12 months, upon proof of good health.

Bonuses paid upon Policies which have become *Claims.*

Life Insured.	Sum Insured.	Sum Paid.
	£.	£. s. d.
John Wharton, Esq. Skelton Castle	5,000	7,708 1 0
Sir John Saunders Sebright, Bart.	5,000	7,659 13 3
Sir William Wake, Bart.	5,000	7,500 8 9
Earl Strathmore	5,000	7,139 15 8
Rev. H. W. Champneys, Canterbury	3,000	4,509 1 1
The Marquis of Wellesley	2,000	3,411 1 1
Earl Cathcart	1,000	1,861 4 11

Prospectuses and full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Agents of the Office, in all the principal towns of the United Kingdom; and at the head Office, No. 50, Regent-street.

JOHN A. BEAUMONT, Managing Director.

THE GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Established 1837. Empowered by Special Acts of Parliament, 3 Vic. cap. 29, and 10 Vic. cap. I. 62, King William-street, London; 21, St. David-street, Edinburgh.

Capital—One Million.

Directors.

George Bousfield, Esq.	Samuel M. Peto, Esq.
Thomas Challis, Esq. Ald.	Thomas Piper, Esq.
Jacob G. Cope, Esq.	Thomas B. Simpson, Esq.
John Dixon, Esq.	Edward Smith, Esq.
Joseph Fletcher, Esq.	Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.
Richard Hollier, Esq.	John Wilks, Esq.
Charles Hindley, Esq. M.P.	Edward Wilson, Esq.

Secretary—Dr. Thomas Price.

TABLE No. I.
WITHOUT PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.
Premiums for the Assurance of 100*l.* payable at Death.

20	30	40	50	60
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1 12 0	2 1 5	2 15 7	4 1 1	6 5 3

TABLE No. II.
WITH PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.

20	30	40	50	60
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1 18 2	2 8 5	3 3 7	4 10 3	6 18 0

Assurances on Joint Lives and Survivorships, Deferred Annuities, and Endowments for Children, are granted, and Reversions and Life Interests are purchased on liberal terms.

The following are among the distinctive features of the Company:—

1. The lowest rate of Premium consistent with security, and the payment of Policies, guaranteed by a capital of One Million.

2. Two Tables of Premiums, the one giving to the assured *two-thirds* of the profits of this department of the Company's business.

3. A Table of Premiums for Policies, payable at the age of 60, or previously in the event of death; specially suitable to professional men of all classes.

4. Policies in the mutual branch immediately interested in the profits of the Company, and such profits, at the option of the assured, to be received in cash, applied to the reduction of premiums, or added in reversionary value to the sum assured.

5. Premiums may be paid Annually, Half-yearly, or Quarterly, in a limited number of Payments, or in one sum.

6. Every facility given, on moderate terms, to persons going beyond the prescribed limits of their Policy.

7. Loans granted on Life Policies which have been five years in force, and have attained the value of 50*l.*

8. No entrance fee required.

Loans granted on personal security, and the deposit of a Life Policy to be effected by the borrower.

IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
CORNHILL, LONDON.

Directors.

Henry James Prescott, Esq. *Chairman.*
George Field, Esq. *Deputy-Chairman.*

James C. C. Bell, Esq.	Daniel Mildred, Esq.
Michael Bland, Esq.	James G. Murdoch, Esq.
Charles Francis Cobb, Esq.	John Horsley Palmer, Esq.
Andrew Colvile, Esq.	Henry Pearse, Esq.
George Henry Cutler, Esq.	George Reid, Esq.
George Hibbert, Esq.	William R. Robinson, Esq.
Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq.	Newman Smith, Esq.

Four-fifths, or 80 per cent. of the Profits will be assigned to Policies every fifth year, and may be applied to increase the sum insured, to an immediate payment in cash, or to the reduction and ultimate extinction of future premiums, as shown in the following example:—

Profits to Policies of 25 years' standing, entitled to participate in the Bonus declared in 1846.

Age at Entry.	Sum Insured.	Annual Premium.	Bonus added.	Cash paid on surrender of Bonus.	Or Premium reduced to	And Annual Return of
	£.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
15	1000	19 5 10	451 5 0	174 12 3	8 6 9	..
20	1000	21 15 10	451 5 0	193 12 2	8 15 0	..
30	1000	26 14 2	451 5 0	236 18 7	7 10 5	..
40	1000	33 19 2	451 5 0	284 0 6	4 9 8	..
50	1000	45 6 8	451 5 0	335 9 11	..	4 10 4
60	1000	63 13 4	451 5 0	384 12 5	..	36 10 6

Insurances without participation in profits effected at reduced rates.

Prospectuses and an explanatory statement of other advantages now given by this Company, may be had at the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, 16, Pall Mall; or of the Agents.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
No. 5, ST. JAMES'S-STREET, LONDON.

Trustees.

Sir A. Brydges Henniker, Bart. | Henry Pownall, Esq.
R. Bond Cabbell, Esq. M.P. | Claude Edward Scott, Esq.

Directors.

Chairman—Lieut.-Col. Lord Arthur Lennox.
Deputy-Chairman—T. C. Granger, Esq. M.P.

John Ashburner, Esq. M.D.	Chas. Farebrother, Esq. Ald.
T. W. R. Batard, Esq.	William Tulloh Fraser, Esq.
Philip P. Blyth, Esq.	John Gardiner, Esq.
Henry Broadwood, Esq. M.P.	Aaron Asher Goldsmid, Esq.
Sir James Carmichael, Bart.	Henry William Pownall, Esq.

Bankers—Sir Claude Scott, Bart., & Co.
Solicitors—Messrs. Davies, Son & Campbell.

Assurances on the lives of persons in every station of life and every part of the world granted on a plan which combines the utmost amount of benefit to the families of the assured at death, with every attainable advantage during life, which the system of Life Assurance is capable of affording.

It affords perfect security in a subscribed Capital, which guarantees the prompt settlement of every claim, with participating and non-participating rates on the lowest scale, especially for terms of years.

The Assured can anticipate or obtain the advance of the full amount of the Policy, on giving approved available security for a certain number of annual payments, as explained by the Prospectus.

Every facility is afforded to persons assuring the lives of others, so as to render such Policies effectual securities.

A new plan of gradual or accumulative Assurance, particularly adapted for young lives, and for such as cannot, without inconvenience, undertake the payment of a fixed premium, securing at once provision in case of premature death, and an accumulating fund, available during life, should occasion require.

Annuities, Endowments, Advances and Loans on liberal terms.

Detailed Prospectuses, with forms of Proposal, and every information, may be had on application, either personally or by letter, at the Company's Offices.

The usual commission to Solicitors and Agents.

H. D. DAVENPORT, Secretary.

THIRD SEPTENNIAL BONUS.

CROWN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,
38, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, London.

Directors.

George H. Hooper, Esq., Chairman.
Sir John Kirkland, Deputy Chairman.

John Chapman, Esq.	Jameson Hunter, Esq.
Charles Chippindale, Esq.	Colonel Moody, R.E.
James Colquhoun, Esq. LL.D.	John Nelson, Esq.
R. D. Colvin, Esq.	Richard Norman, Esq.
Rear-Admiral Dundas, C.B. M.P.	Alexander Stewart, Esq.
	William Whitmore, Esq.
Thomas Harrison, Esq.	William Wilson, Esq.

Auditors—J. H. Forbes, Esq.; James Mitchell, Esq.; O. Ommanney, Esq.
Physician—Sir C. P. Forbes, M.D., K.C.H., 23, Argyll-street.
Surgeon—Samuel Solly, Esq. F.R.S., 1, St. Helen's-place.
Standing Counsel—Charles Ellis, Esq.
Solicitors—Messrs. Hale, Boys & Austen.
Bankers—Bank of England.
Actuary—J. M. Rainbow, Esq.

On a THIRD SEPTENNIAL INVESTIGATION into the affairs of this Company, to the 25th March, 1846, a BONUS, amounting on the average to 31 per cent. on the Premiums paid for the preceding Seven Years, was assigned to all Policies of at least Three Years' standing, and effected for the whole duration of life.

To similar Policies the following BONUSES were declared at former Divisions, viz.:—

FIRST DIVISION, IN 1832.

On the average, upwards of 26 per cent. on the Premiums paid.

SECOND DIVISION, IN 1839.

On the average, 33 per cent. on the Premiums paid for the preceding Seven Years.

THE ADVANTAGES OF THIS OFFICE, among others, are:

1. A participation septennially in two-thirds of the Profits, which may be applied either in reduction of the Premium, or to augment the sum assured.
2. Premiums may be paid in a limited number of annual sums, instead of by annual payments for the whole of life; the Policy continuing to participate in profits after the payment of such Premiums has ceased.
3. The Assurance or Premium Fund is not subject to any charge for Interest to Proprietors.
4. Permission to pass to Continental Ports between *Brest* and the *Elbe* inclusive.
5. Parties (including Officers of the Army, Navy, East India Company, and Merchant Service,) may be assured to reside in or proceed to all parts of the World, at Premiums calculated on real data.
6. Claims to be paid within three months.
7. The Assured may dispose of their Policies to the Company.
8. No charge but for Policy Stamps.
9. The Prospectus, Tables of Rates, &c. to be had at the Office in London, or of the Company's Agents.

T. G. CONYERS, Secretary.

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

This Office was established in 1837, to afford the advantages of *Mutual Assurance at very moderate Premiums.* These will be found, *at early and middle ages, about 20 per cent. below those of most similar offices.*

Special attention is requested to the Ninth Annual Report:—"The number of New Policies issued (during the past year) has been 416. The sums Assured by these (exclusive of Annuities) amount to 191,102*l.*; and the Annual Premiums to 5,483*l.*"

London, 12, Moorgate-street. J. R. LEIFCHILD, Secretary.

PATENT WATCHES AND CLOCKS.—

E. J. DENT, by appointment, Watchmaker to the Queen, respectfully solicits from the public an inspection of his stock of Watches, which has been greatly increased to meet the many purchases at this season of the year. Ladies' Gold Watches at 8*l.* 8*s.*, Beautifully Enamelled Cased ditto, 12*l.* 12*s.* Excellent Gentlemens' Gold Watches, 10*l.* 10*s.* Silver Lever Watches, jewelled in four holes, 6*l.* 6*s.* each. Youths' Silver Watches, 4*l.* 4*s.* each.

82, Strand; 33, Cockspur-street; and 34, Royal Exchange.

TO ARCHITECTS, BUILDERS & OTHERS.

—ENCAUSTIC, VENETIAN, BATH and other PATENT TILES, and MOSAIC PAVEMENTS, may be obtained at MINTON & Co.'s Warehouse, 9, Albion-place, Surrey side of Blackfriars Bridge. Also an assortment of Plain and Ornamental Door Furniture, Slabs and Tiles for Fire-places, &c.

PATENT ELECTRO PLATE.—ELKINGTON

& Co. manufacture only one warranted quality, which has stood the test of many years' wear, on shipboard and in hotels, continuing to give the same satisfaction as solid silver. They warn the public that the fact of Goods being Plated by their Patent Process offers no security for their QUALITY whatever. All goods made and sold by them bear the marks of E. & Co. below a crown, and such only they warrant.

22, Regent-street, } London.
45, Moorgate-street, }

Estimates, drawings, and prices sent free.

MORTLOCK'S (Oxford-street) CHINA and GLASS WAREHOUSE.—JOHN MORTLOCK invites

the attention of the public to this well-known and extensive establishment. He wishes to announce that he has on SALE the largest and best assortment in London of CHINA, GLASS, and EARTHENWARE, both useful and ornamental, at the lowest possible prices for cash. For example—a dinner service, for twelve persons, of the best earthenware, may be purchased for four guineas. —250, Oxford-street, near Hyde Park.

HAY-MAKING SEASON.

HAY-MAKING MACHINES!
HAY-MAKING MACHINES!!
HAY-MAKING MACHINES!!!

DO not delay to give your orders for MARY WEDLAKE'S HAY-MAKING MACHINE and HORSE HAY-RAKE. Widow of the late Inventor, 118, FENCHURCH-STREET, CITY, (opposite Mark-lane). Ironmongers or Agents wanted in several Towns for cash. References to upwards of 300 of the Nobility, Gentry, and Farmers, will be forwarded on application, as also bills.

N.B. Beware of imposition, as spurious machines are often substituted by unprincipled tradesmen for MARY WEDLAKE'S.

WINDOW BLINDS.—TYLOR & PACE,

General Window-Blind Manufacturers, 3, Queen-street, three doors from Cheapside:—

	s. d.
Venetian Blinds, per square foot	0 8
Holland Roller Blinds " "	0 6
Holland Spring ditto " "	0 8
Union Roller Blinds " "	0 4
Perforated Zinc Blinds, in mahogany frames	1 8
Gauze Wire ditto ditto	1 10
Dyed Calico Blinds of Stamped Cloth	1 9

Transparent Blinds, each 12*s.*, 18*s.*, 24*s.*, 30*s.*, 42*s.* and upwards.
Detailed lists of prices forwarded on application, post free.

H. WALKER'S NEEDLES, (by authority) the

"QUEEN'S OWN," with the new large eyes, *are easily threaded*, (even by blind persons,) and work with great ease, having improved points, temper, and finish: they are made of every length or substance, and for every purpose: the labels are correct likenesses of *Her Majesty* and *H.R.H. Prince Albert*, in relief on coloured grounds. They can be sent free by post, by any respectable dealer, on receipt of thirteen penny stamps for *every* shilling value. H. Walker's Hooks and Eyes, Fish-hooks, Steel Pens, &c. are recommended. H. Walker, Manufacturer to the Queen, Gresham-street West, (lately called Maiden-lane), New Post-office, London. Some of Miss Linwood's Pictures for Sale.

GREEN-GINGER WINE.

JOHN STIVENS & Co. CAUTION the Public

against the many spurious imitations which the extraordinary demand for their Original Green-Ginger Wine has called forth. The original article has on the label covering the neck of each bottle, a fac-simile of their signature.

May be had, wholesale, at the Manufactory, Bristol; Bargeyard, Bucklersbury, London; Duke-street and Henry-street, Liverpool; or of respectable Shopkeepers in town and country.

BED FEATHERS PURIFIED BY STEAM,

WITH PATENT MACHINERY, whereby they are rendered perfectly sweet and free from dust.

Mixed	1*s.* 0*d.* per lb.	Best Foreign Grey Goose	2*s.* 0*d.*
Grey Goose	1 4 "	White Goose	2 6 "
Foreign ditto	1 8 "	Best Dantzic White Goose	3 0 "

HEAL & SON'S List of Bedding, containing full particulars of weights, sizes, and prices, sent free by post, on application to their Factory, 196 (opposite the Chapel), Tottenham-court-road.

PLATE.—A. B. SAVORY & SONS, Manufacturing Silversmiths, 14, Cornhill, London, opposite the Bank

of England.—The best wrought SILVER SPOONS and FORKS, fiddle pattern, 7*s.* 2*d.* per ounce; Queen's pattern, 7*s.* 4*d.* per ounce. The following are the weights recommended, but the articles may be had lighter or heavier at the same price per ounce:—

Fiddle Pattern, oz.	*s. d.*	£. *s. d.*	Queen's Pattern, oz.	*s. d.*	£. *s. d.*
12 Table Spoons 30 at	7	2 10 0	12 Table Spoons 40 at	7	4 14 0
12 Dessert ditto 20	7	2 7 4	12 Dessert ditto 26	7	4 9 10
12 Table Forks 30	7	3 10 0	12 Table Forks 40	7	4 14 0
12 Dessert ditto 20	7	2 7 4	12 Dessert ditto 26	7	4 9 10
2 Gravy Spoons 10	7	3 11 8	2 Gravy Spoons 12	7	4 4 8
1 Soup Ladle 10	7	3 11 8	1 Soup Ladle 12	7	4 4 8
4 Sauce ditto 10	7	8 3 16 8	4 Sauce ditto 12	7	10 4 14 0
4 Salt Spoons (gilt strong) 11		0 0	4 Salt Spoons (strong gilt) 12		2 2 0
1 Fish Slice ..	..	.. 2 18 0	1 Fish Slice ..	..	.. 3 5 0
12 Tea Spoons 10	7	8 3 16 8	12 Tea Spoons 14	7	10 5 9 8
1 Pair Sugar Tongs ..		0 15 0	1 Pair Sugar Tongs ..		1 5 0

N.B. A price current, stamped as a newspaper, illustrated by drawings, and containing information relative to the purchase of silver or Sheffield plate, may be had on application, or will be sent into the country free of postage, in answer to a paid letter.

METCALFE & CO.'s NEW PATTERN

TOOTH BRUSH and SMYRNA SPONGES.—The Tooth Brush has the important advantage of searching thoroughly into the divisions of the teeth, and cleaning them in the most effectual and extraordinary manner, and is famous for the hairs not coming loose, 1*s.* An improved Clothes Brush, that cleans in a third part of the usual time, and incapable of injuring the finest nap. Penetrating Hair Brushes, with the durable unbleached Russian bristles, which do not soften like common hair. Flesh Brushes of improved graduated and powerful friction. Velvet Brushes, which act in the most surprising and successful manner. The genuine Smyrna Sponge, with its preserved valuable properties of absorption, vitality, and durability, by means of direct imputations, dispensing with all intermediate parties' profits and destructive bleaching, and securing the luxury of a genuine Smyrna Sponge. Only at METCALFE & Co.'s Sole Establishment, 130, Oxford-street, one door from Hollis-street.

Caution.—Beware of the words "From Metcalfe's" adopted by some houses.

CAUTION.—A. ROWLAND & SON, 20,

HATTON-GARDEN, LONDON, beg to Caution the Nobility and Gentry against being misled by the attempts of some Shopkeepers, who, to compounds of their own manufacture, give the titles of 'MACASSAR OIL,' 'KALYDOR,' and 'ODONTO'—some under the *implied* sanction of Royalty, and the Government Departments, with similar attempts at Deception, while they copy the Labels, Bills, Advertisements, and Testimonials (substituting *fictitious* Names and Addresses for the real) of the Original Preparations. The *only Genuine* 'Macassar Oil,' 'Kalydor,' and 'Odonto,' are "ROWLANDS'" and the Wrapper of each bears the name of "ROWLANDS'" preceding that of the Article, with their Signature at the foot, in *Red Ink*, thus—

"A. ROWLAND & SON."

Sold by them at 20, Hatton-garden, London; and by every respectable Chemist and Perfumer throughout the Kingdom.

FINE FLOWING RINGLETS.—The care of

the Hair in infants and young children is, by inexperienced mothers and nurses, too little regarded. No mistake can be more injurious than the supposition that neglect in this particular can continue with impunity. The seeds of strength or weakness are laid in the nursery; and the majority of the fine flowing ringlets, or bald heads, of after years, are traceable to this early period.—OLDRIDGE'S BALM of COLUMBIA, long celebrated for its genial and invigorating qualities in promoting and restoring the growth of the hair, is peculiarly fitted (applied according to the printed directions) for application during the tender years of infancy and childhood; and no nursery, where personal advantages are held in any estimation, should be without it. Price 3*s.* 6*d.*, 6*s.*, and 11*s.* per bottle; no other prices are genuine.—Ask for Oldridge's Balm, 1, Wellington-street, Strand, London. Sold by all respectable Chemists, Perfumers, and Stationers.

BUTLER'S COMPOUND CONCENTRATED

DECOCTION, or FLUID EXTRACT OF SARSAPARILLA, is the original of the now numerous concentrated preparations of the kind. A dessert spoonful of it, diluted with water, makes half a pint of the Compound Decoction, of the same strength and composition as that ordered by the British Pharmacopœias. This form is extensively prescribed by Medical Practitioners, being deemed the most eligible one for its exhibition, containing all the properties of the Sarsaparilla, and those of the other ingredients, in a very condensed state.

Prepared and sold in pint bottles, 20*s.*; half-pints, 10*s.*; and quarter-pints, 5*s.* 6*d.*, by Butler & Harding, Chemists, 4, Cheapside, corner of St. Paul's, London; and may be obtained of J. Sangster, 150, Oxford-street; likewise of Davenport & Stedman, 20, Waterloo-place, opposite the Post-office, Edinburgh; or through any respectable Druggist.

☞ No. 4, Cheapside, corner of St. Paul's.

THE BLOOD PURIFIED and HEALTH

RESTORED, by FRENCH'S SARSAPARILLA and CHAMOMILE, or RESTORATIVE CORDIAL.—It is warranted to cure indigestion, lowness of spirits, loss of appetite, dimness of sight, weakness, languor, wasting of the flesh, glandular swellings, diseases of the skin, rheumatic affections, and every kind of debility occasioned by unhealthy climates, too sedentary a life, injudicious use of mercury, dissipation, or other causes. However debilitated the system or deep-rooted the disease, by the diligent use of this life-preserving and purifying medicine, the shattered frame will be invigorated, the energies of the whole nervous system augmented, and serenity of mind, liveliness of imagination, and a more powerful and healthy action of every faculty of the body produced by its restorative properties.—Prepared by W. A. French, 369, High Holborn (two doors west of Chancery-lane, London), in bottles 2*s.* 9*d.*, 4*s.* 6*d.*, 11*s.*, and 22*s.* each.

NERVES.—DR. GRANDISON'S DISCOVERY for strengthening the NERVES. A trial of this

efficacious Medicine is earnestly recommended to those who suffer from any Nervous Affection whatever. Eminent Physicians are adopting the use of Dr. GRANDISON'S PILLS as a safe remedy in Nervous Disorders, which have hitherto baffled the highest medical skill. Sold by all Patent Medicine Venders in boxes at 1*s.* 1½*d.*, —2*s.* 9*d.*—4*s.* 6*d.*, and 22*s.* each.

DR. WILSON'S TINCTURE and ALTERATIVE PILLS.—The acknowledged excellence of Dr. Wilson's

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